

## Bringing **The Story** Home- Ch. 31



### The End of Time

*Bringing The Story Home* is a tool for you to use with your family to connect with the weekly lessons taught in "The Story" curriculum. Feel free to use these activities in a way that fits your family life. Do what works with the time you have each week.

**Timeless Truth:** Jesus wins the ultimate victory; he's coming soon.

**Bible Basis:** Revelation 1:1–19, 4:1–11, 5:13–14, 19:11–15, 21:10–18, 21–27, 22:7–14, 16–21

**Key Verse:** "Look! He is coming with the clouds. Every eye will see him." —Revelation 1:7

**Parent Tips:** Read the key point from the Sunday school lessons that relate to your children. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table during the week. The Living Faith activity demonstrates how God will separate those who believe in him from those who were never his followers. The Extra Mile has your family watch videos of worship songs based on this chapter of The Story and a video about the importance of telling others about God.

**Get The Point:** Jesus is coming again. I can live in his kingdom forever.

### Table Talk:

- **John says the time that all these things will happen "is near," but that was around 2,000 years ago. Why hasn't Jesus returned yet?**
- **It helps to understand that God isn't bound by time. He's infinite. Second Peter 3:8 explains it this way: "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years. And a thousand years are like a day." What would it be like if time didn't matter?**
- **Have you ever wanted to go back in time? If you could visit any point in time, where would you go?**
- **John describes Jesus in a funny way—wool hair, blazing eyes, metal feet, voice like a river and a sword for a tongue. In your own words, describe Jesus. Why do you think John used these words to describe the Savior?**
- **Take turns as a family describing each other as John might describe you.**
- **How does it feel to get to the end of The Story and know that God wins?**
- **Jesus warns the churches about their behavior. Look at several of them. Do churches battle these same problems today?**
  - **Church in Ephesus—forgotten first love**
  - **Church in Sardis—live according to what you know about God**
  - **Church in Laodicea—lukewarm; need to live on fire**
- **Which of the above problems do you deal with the most?**
- **Now that you've completed The Story and know more about God, do you think it's going to be easier or harder to live for him? Why?**
- **Are you ready, because Jesus says he's "coming soon"?**

**Living Faith:** Some scary things happen in this chapter of The Story. Battles are fought. Strange looking creatures appear. God judges everybody and separates those who know him and people who never followed him. The Bible says, "Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter the city." At baptism, God writes your name in his book. God knows everybody's heart, so he can easily separate out his followers.

Do a fun experiment that allows you to separate salt from pepper. You'll need a paper towel, salt, pepper and a balloon. (If you don't have a balloon, a comb can work, too.) First, create a small pile of salt and pepper. Make sure they're well mixed together. Second, blow up the balloon and rub it quickly

back and forth against your hair. Rubbing it against a wool sweater works, too. Once you've created enough static electricity, move the balloon slowly toward the pile. The pepper should "jump" up and stick to the balloon, while the salt will be left behind. Try the same experiment using a comb. Create your pile of salt and pepper, then comb your hair. Put the comb about an inch from the pile and separate out the pepper.

- Is the pepper better than the salt and that's why it jumps to the comb? (No, the pepper is lighter and more easily attracted.)
- As Christians, are we better than people who don't believe in Jesus? (No, the Holy Spirit has called us to faith and because of Jesus we are redeemed and forgiven children of God.)
- Because God's judgment day is going to happen, don't you think it's super important to share God's love with everybody?

### **Extra Mile:**

1. Go to YouTube and watch the following video from the Contemporary Christian Band Mercy Me:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N\\_lrq\\_opng](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_lrq_opng)

When you've watched the video, talk about what you think heaven will be like.

2. Jesus is coming again. It's a fact! Only those who believe in him will receive eternal life. Those who reject Jesus will suffer forever. The consequences are huge. This video from illusionist Penn Jillette shows the impact that living a real life for Jesus can have on an atheist. It may not be appropriate for every family, but it has a powerful message. Parents, please preview this video before you show it to your kids. Search "Penn Says: A Gift of a Bible" at YouTube or go to:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhG-tkQ\\_Q2w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhG-tkQ_Q2w)

What can you do today to show the real love of Jesus to someone?

**Prayer Time:** *Dear Lord, we thank you for guiding us on this journey though Your Story. Help us to share Your story with others as we go through life. We thank you that you have guaranteed us a place in heaven to be with you forever. We can't wait for that day dear Lord. Amen! Come Lord Jesus!!*