hen you look up at the sky on a clear night, some of the stars you see aren’t really stars. They’re actually gigantic clusters of stars called “galaxies.” They only look small because they are so far away. We happen to live in a galaxy called the Milky Way. Our sun is a star — but it is just one out of 100 billion stars in our home galaxy. The Milky Way is also about 100,000 light-years across. That means that if you traveled at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second!), it would take you 100,000 years just to fly across our neighborhood of stars. God’s universe is huge!

Have you ever wondered what it must be like to travel through space?

How would you like to fly just above the red surface of Mars — zigzagging through its massive canyons and craters?

What about zipping around the rings of Saturn while dodging oncoming asteroids?

And imagine racing a shooting star!

But have you ever wondered what you would see in space — beyond the stars? Wouldn’t that be an exciting adventure? Well, you really can!

The un-manned Voyager spacecrafts explored all the giant planets in the outer reaches of our solar system: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune — and 48 of their moons. They photographed massive volcanoes blowing up on one of Jupiter’s moons and took amazing pictures of Saturn’s rings.

These spacecrafts also passed beyond all the planets in our solar system, traveling at 38,000 miles per hour, sending information back to earth for more than 30 years!

Today, of course, it’s impossible for any person to go on such a long voyage — but did you know that someday you will be able to go farther than any spacecraft has ever gone? That’s right! We will even be able to travel past the stars — and see with our own eyes what is out there. Do you want to go?
The Bible tells us about an amazing journey through the stars that begins when Jesus comes to take us to His city of gold! Let’s open our Bibles and learn more about this incredible adventure.

But first, let’s say a prayer to God, asking that He teach us and help us understand His Word. You might say, “Dear God, Please teach me the truth about your coming, and help me to understand how to be ready. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.”

Will Jesus really come back to earth again and take us through the stars to heaven?

**Answer:** Yes! Jesus told His disciples, just before He went to heaven, “In My Father’s house are many mansions.... I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2, 3). “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me” (Revelation 22:12).

Wow! We have Jesus’ own promise that He will come again! He says, I’m preparing a place so:

“Where _____ am, there ________ may be also.”

**Can you imagine living with the King of the universe?**

**Do you know how absolutely AWESOME that will be?**

He is coming to give a reward for everyone’s good works. And what a reward it is! What could be more exciting?! We have the “hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised” (Titus 1:2).

The first time Jesus came to this earth, He came as a tiny baby. But the second time He comes, He will come as a mighty King. He won’t come quietly or unnoticed either — but with all the angels of heaven and with the blast of a trumpet!

**How will Jesus come the second time — when He comes to get us?**

**Answer:** “While they [the disciples] watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said ... ‘Why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven’” (Acts 1:9–11).

Jesus will come as a real person with a body like He had before. Don’t be fooled! If someone comes to you and says Jesus has already come, don’t you believe it! When Jesus comes the second time, everybody will know!

To reach outer space, you must travel at least 50 miles above the earth’s surface.

The surface of Neptune has the fastest winds in the solar system, reaching speeds of 1,200 miles per hour!

These squares hold flowers, snowflakes, spirals, squares, and stars. Color only the blocks that have a star to find out what you will say to Jesus when He comes again.
An s w e r: “If they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:26, 27).

“Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him” (Revelation 1:7).

The Bible says we will get to see Jesus come back … and what a day that will be! You might be able to sleep through a thunderstorm, but you will never be able to sleep through the second coming. Jesus won’t be somewhere secret so that we’d have to go looking for Him. His coming will be as bright as a flash of ___________.

The density of the planet Saturn is so low that if you could put it in a giant glass of water, it would FLOAT!

Who is with Jesus when He comes?

An s w e r: “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory” (Matthew 25:31).

“He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other” (Matthew 24:31).

Jesus will then send them to gather His faithful children from off the earth. No matter where you live, God will never leave you behind if you love Him.

This is a lot like how we will feel when Jesus comes. I can hardly wait — can you?

Jesus said He would prepare a place for us (John 14:3), and take us there when He comes again. There is a special place we can prepare for Jesus today. Find the synonyms, then take the first letter of each word to spell out that special place.

Joyful is a synonym for ___________ P ___________
Anxious is a synonym for ___________ G ___________
Outlook is a synonym for ___________ T ___________
Uncovers is a synonym for ___________ V ___________
Facts is a synonym for ___________ T ___________

Answer: Happy, eager, Attitude, Reveals, Truth = HeART

Have you ever waited for someone to return home after taking a long trip? Johnny did. His father left on a business trip for a long time, and Johnny missed him very much. Every day, he asked his mother when his dad was coming home. Then finally, one day, his mother said, “Yes, Johnny, Daddy is coming home today; it’s time to go pick him up at the airport.” How excited Johnny was — Daddy was finally coming home! He could hardly wait.

At the airport, Johnny tried to spot his dad as people came off the plane. There were lots of people, and he started to wonder if he might have missed his dad. But suddenly he saw him! “Look, Mommy, look!” Johnny exclaimed. “There’s Daddy!” Johnny ran to his father and jumped into his arms. It felt so good to finally see him again.

Who comes with Jesus?

Who comes with Jesus?

“Who is with Jesus?”

“All the holy ___________.”

But wait — it gets even better! “The dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive … shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air” (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

Did you know that major storms are common on Jupiter? Its most famous storm, the Great Red Spot, has been raging since telescopes were first aimed at the planet centuries ago.
Will everyone go to heaven when Jesus comes?

Answer: No. Sadly, the wicked, who don’t love Jesus, won’t want to even see Him, much less live with Him. The Bible says they will say “to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne’ ” (Revelation 6:16). “With the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked” (Isaiah 11:4).

All the wicked on the earth will be slain when Jesus comes. Jesus will be so sad that they didn’t want to love Him and live with Him — for He loved them and wanted them to be saved, but they chose a different master.

What are some signs of Jesus’ coming?

Answer: Here are some of the things Jesus told His disciples would happen before He comes again:

A. False Prophets: “Many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many” (Matthew 24:5). “Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many” (Matthew 24:11).

You can’t always believe what you see with your eyes. The Bible tells us that before Jesus comes we can expect to see many false prophets. Some will even work miracles and claim to be Jesus, but if their actions or what they say doesn’t agree with the Bible, stay away from them! (Read Isaiah 8:20 and 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15.) Thanks to Jesus and His Word, we don’t have to be deceived.

B. Wars and Disasters in the World: “You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. … There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places” (Matthew 24:6, 7).

Perhaps you’ve heard about the Twin Towers in New York being attacked and of different wars. We also often hear about earthquakes and famines. Jesus said all of this would take place more frequently before He comes. These things are a message for us to get ready now — Jesus is coming soon!
Mars is home to the largest known volcano in the solar system: Olympus Mons. It is 16 miles high (almost twice as high as Mount Everest) and covers an area about as large as the state of Arizona!

Circle all the major inventions above since the year 1900...

You live in an amazing age! Many of your great grandparents remember a world where there was no radio, television, internet, and no airplanes, or an International Space Station. Just in the last century, knowledge has increased more than all the rest of the recorded history of man put together!

D. Gospel to the World: “This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world ... and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14). Nearly 95 percent of the world can now learn the gospel if they want to. Through radio, satellite, DVDs, the internet, printed materials, and traveling missionaries — the message of salvation is going to the whole world. Jesus is coming soon! God wants to give every person in the whole world the opportunity to know that He loves them and has a gift of salvation through Jesus for them. He is “not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

E. Selfishness: “In the last days ... men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, ... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” (2 Timothy 3:1, 2, 4). Have you ever met anyone who had to have everything their own way — or else? A lot of people think only of themselves. They love their money, and entertainment, and video games much more than they love God. The Bible says this selfishness is a sign that we are living...

If the sun suddenly stopped shining, it would take eight minutes for people on earth to even be aware of it.

In the 20th century, there were ten times as many earthquakes resulting in 1,000 or more deaths than in any other century. And seventy percent of the deadliest disasters have occurred since 1800.
How can I get ready for Jesus to come?

Answer: Jesus says, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in” (Revelation 3:20). “As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” (John 1:12).

Jesus wants you to receive Him. He is knocking at the door of your heart, saying, “If you let Me, I will come into your heart and change your thoughts and make you My child.” Doesn’t that sound awesome — a son or daughter of God? Not just the son or daughter of a king or a president — but a son or daughter of the King of the universe?

The Bible says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

Jesus will forgive your past life of sin and will help you to “walk just as He walked” (1 John 2:6). As you try to copy the loving ways of Jesus, you will become like Him and will be ready when He comes.

Here is a little prayer poem. Fill in the missing words and read the prayer to Jesus.

Here is the word bank to choose from:
You instead hour fear free eye
I've read in Your Word that Your coming is near
at times when I look at myself I feel
But then when I think of Your promise to me
I rest in the knowledge that You set me
Free from sin's punishment, free from its power
And free from its presence in that final
For if I receive You, the promise is true
I'll live in Your presence, forever with
So now when I think of You there in the sky
Surrounded by angels, seen by every
It's joy that I feel, no more fear, no more dread
But happiness, rest, and rejoicing

Do you believe that Jesus is coming again soon … and do you want to be ready when He comes?

Do you want to take that amazing trip through the stars to Jesus’ kingdom? 

Do you want to open your heart’s door and invite Him in?
How can I prepare for Jesus' coming?

A) Keep “looking unto Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2). Read about the love of Jesus in the Bible every day — and you will love Him with all of your heart!

B) Pray to Jesus. Talk to Him as a friend. He understands you and will help you.

C) Choose to do things that make God happy — obey your parents, turn from evil things. Jesus gives you His armor and strength to fight Satan, the dragon. “Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (James 4:7, 8). Jesus will always be with you when you ask Him to.

D) Share what you’ve learned with others.

Notes

Did you enjoy this lesson? We hope so! Now do the questions on the SUMMARY SHEET.

1. How will Jesus come again? (3)
   - a) in a space ship
   - b) on the clouds, with the angels
   - c) as a spirit or ghost
   - d) as a person, like He was before
   - e) in an airplane
   - f) secretly
   - g) with all His angels

2. What will happen when Jesus comes? (4)
   - a) it will be quiet and dark
   - b) He will blow His trumpet loudly
   - c) He will shout and wake the dead
   - d) the sky will be cloudless
   - e) bells will ring and bands will play
   - f) everyone will see Him
   - g) we will get immortal bodies

3. Why is Jesus coming? (4)
   - a) to whip us into line
   - b) to take us to heaven
   - c) to take us to Jupiter to live
   - d) to raise the righteous dead
   - e) to teach and preach on earth
   - f) to reward those who love and obey Him
   - g) to put an end to sin and suffering

4. What are some signs of Jesus' soon coming? (5)
   - a) poisonous snakes biting everyone
   - b) lots of wars
   - c) lawless, unloving people
   - d) a lot of people going to Hawaii
   - e) false prophets
   - f) winning the lottery
   - g) famines and disasters
   - h) people loving pleasure more than God

5. What will happen to the wicked when Jesus comes? (2)
   - a) they will be converted
   - b) they will be destroyed
   - c) they will cry for rocks to fall on them
   - d) they will keep living on earth
   - e) they will rebuild the Tower of Babel

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of ALL that are correct. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.
6. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

7. Do you want to prepare to meet Jesus when He comes? ____________