

UMC Heaven Study  
Class Question from Session 2

1. Where is the reference explaining the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven?
  - The word heavens can be used to refer to different realms. Heavens can refer to the sky and the earth's atmosphere, making it the "first heaven" (Deuteronomy 11:11; Psalm 104:12; Isaiah 55:10). It can also refer to outer space, where the stars and planets are—the "second heaven" (Psalm 8:3; Isaiah 13:10). And it can refer to God's dwelling place, which is beyond the other "heavens," a place known as the "third heaven" (Psalm 33:13–14; Isaiah 66:1; Matthew 6:9; Hebrews 7:26; Revelation 11:19). When Paul says that he went to the third heaven, he means that he went to the place where God dwells. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Paul-third-heaven.html>
2. What does tabernacle mean?
  - Tent - residence, dwelling place'
3. Will those who have already died be praying for those still on earth to repent?
  - Bible offers no proof that people in heaven can pray for us on earth", But Jesus does intercedes for us. Rom 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, **who also makes intercession for us.**
4. If we have not done all the work we can while alive, what chance do we stand for being rewarded with any crowns?
  - Everyone will be rewarded for the good we have done in the name of Christ.
  - 1Co 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. **Then each one's praise will come from God.**

**Five Crowns given to believers that persist and endure till His return.**

**Crown of life** James 1:12 -- Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

**Crown of Righteousness** - 2 Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

**Crown of Rejoicing** 1 Thessalonians 2:19 “For what is our hope, or joy, or Crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?”

**Imperishable Crown** 1Co 9:25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

**Crown of Glory** 1Pe 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the Crown of Glory that does not fade away.