

“*Won't Be's*” in Heaven

by Karen-Mae Trotman Mitchell

Text: “I saw a new heaven and a new earth” (Rev. 21:1).

Theme: Heaven will be a place of happiness.

Props: In a big bag have some band-aids, test/homework sheet, fireman's hat, drawing of a black cloud, pocket pack of tissues, padlock/cop's badge, damaged toy car, small pillow, medicine and a toy ambulance, thermometer and syringe.

In the Book of Revelation, the prophet John tells us that he saw Heaven (cf. Rev. 21:1). God gave him a chance to see the future—to see what Heaven will be like. I can hardly wait to get to Heaven! There will be so many things I want to see and do when I get there.

What are some things that you would like to see when you get to Heaven? (*Wait for children to respond.*)

Yes, there will be lots of great things in Heaven. But, you know, Heaven will also be special because of the many things that *won't be* there.

Can you tell me of some of the things you would not like to see in Heaven? (*Wait for children to list these.*)

I call the things we won't have to worry about in Heaven “*won't be's*.” In my bag, I have some things to remind us of some of the things that *won't be* in Heaven. I'll show them to you one by one, and you can tell me what “*won't be's*” they remind you of.

(*In any order, take out the items one by one and hold them up for the children to see. Then join with the kids as they give the answers.*)

Band-aid	<i>no cuts, bruises, skinned knees</i>
Test/homework	<i>no tests or homework</i>
Fireman's hat	<i>no fires or other tragedies</i>
Black cloud	<i>no storms, hurricanes, or other bad weather</i>
Pocket pack of tissues	<i>no runny noses, no crying</i>
Padlock/cop's badge	<i>no law-breaking</i>
Damaged toy car	<i>no traffic accidents</i>
Small pillow	<i>no bedtimes</i>
Medicine	<i>no tummy aches, etc.</i>
Toy ambulance, thermometer, syringe	<i>no sickness</i>

I'm glad we won't need any of these things in Heaven. Aren't you? Yes, the Bible tells us that Heaven will be a place of happiness and no sadness.

Listen to Revelation 21:4. (*You can ask one of the older children to read this text.*)

I like that. "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or sadness. There will be no more crying or pain. Things are no longer the way they used to be." How exciting!

But guess what. The best thing about Heaven is that Jesus will be there. I can't wait to see Him. I know you would love to see Jesus, too, right? Let's thank God for preparing this beautiful home for us where we can all be together with Him. Let's thank Him for giving us Jesus as our Savior so that we can all be there.

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