

First Thessalonians

MARK IT UP

HomeGroup Discussion Questions

Week 7: May 22nd-28th

Special note: Sermon questions will not be produced after the last week of this series on May 30th. We encourage our HomeGroups to break from meeting weekly over the summer so everyone can have a time of rest and reinvigoration before the fall. Even so, groups are encouraged to make plans to stay in touch over the summer.

Main Texts: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Connect

1. When you think about Christ's coming, or return, what do you think about? What comes to mind?
2. What did you you find significant about the sermon or passage? What questions or thoughts did it raise for you?

Learn

3. Read the passage. What is Paul's clearly stated purpose in verses 13-14 of chapter 4? What do you think it means to "not grieve as others do who have no hope"?
4. In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul describes the resurrection of Jesus as a kind of "firstfruits." How and where do you see that similar idea reflected in 4:13-18?
5. What do you think it means for "the day of the Lord to come like a thief in the night"? How could the description in 5:2-3 possibly be an encouragement (see verse 5:11) to the Thessalonians?
6. How would you describe the action(s) the Thessalonians should take based off verses 5:4-11?

Apply

7. These verses—especially those in chapter 4—have inspired a number of different views on Jesus' future coming. In Paul's own words, though, what should we be focusing on from this passage?

8. It's clear from verses 4:18 and 5:11 that the coming of Christ is meant to be an encouragement to us. Is it? What might keep us from being eager for Jesus' coming?

9. What do you think it looks like for us as a church (or you individually) to live in the "light," in the "day," and in "sobriety" as we await the coming of Christ? Is there something we/you need to stop or start doing?

10. Paul mentions in both 4:17 and 5:10 that all who are in Christ will be with Christ... forever. What do you think it will mean for us to be with Him like this?