

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. Is hope an essential part of your life? If so, what types of things do you hope for?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. What do you know about the second coming of Jesus Christ? Do you believe that Jesus will come back?
3. Please read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. What is this passage describing?
 - a. What is the Hope described in this passage?
 - b. How should Christians encourage each other?
4. Matthew 24 and 25 is known as, "The Olivet Discourse." According to Matthew 24:1-3, what were the two questions that were presented to Jesus?
 - a. 37 Years later, in 70 AD, this temple that the disciples were enamored with was destroyed by Rome. Jesus predicted it would happen. is it possible that we become enamored with things that won't be around in 37 years?
 - b. Is it possible we might value things in our present world it won't matter in heaven?
 - c. According to Matthew 24:4-8, what are some signs of the return of Christ?
 - d. According to Matthew 24:9-14, what will be the spiritual condition of our world?
 - e. According to Matthew 24:14, will all Christians make it?
5. Pastor Ruben said, "The true test of your faith is who you are when you've been betrayed, hurt, and hated. When sin is accessible and cold godless hearts surround you. When you can't find an example of righteousness. Then you have to decide who you want to be."
6. Please read Matthew 24:15-28. This describes a perilous time involving the Antichrist.
7. Please read Matthew 24:29-31 and discuss the glorious return of Jesus Christ. Compare with Revelation 19:11-16. Share your thoughts.
8. According to Matthew 24:32-41, when will Jesus return? What is the date given? Describe what it was like during the days of Noah. How is it similar to today?

9. Please read Matthew 24:42-51. What is the instruction Jesus gives us?
10. Please read Revelation 1:7-8. Compare this with Revelation 22:7; 20-21. In what ways does God want you to live today?
 - a. What does it mean to "be ready?"
11. To dig deeper... Read Matthew 25 and discuss the parables Jesus shares.

Application

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- Jesus will return one day for his bride!
- Christians have a Living Hope that transcends our present day.
- The true test of your faith is who you are when you've been betrayed, hurt, and hated. When sin is accessible and cold godless hearts surround you. Then you have to decide s.
- Not all Christians will continue to be devoted followers of Jesus Christ when persecution comes.. how deep does your faith run?
- Don't let the affairs of this world overshadow what's to come.
 - Be faithful every day.
 - Read your bible everyday.
 - Persevere through tough times.
 - Start practicing for heaven.
 - If you don't like people...you probably won't like heaven.
 - If you don't like church...you probably won't like heaven.
 - Some of you need to say a prayer, "God help me to love people like you love me."
 - Guard your heart everyday.
 - There's no such thing as harmless resentment.
 - There's no such thing as a harmless grudge.