



Topeka Bible Church

Waiting for Something to Happen: The Thessalonian Letters
#9: While Waiting ... Be a Greg (Get Ready to Encounter God)!

Community Group Study Questions

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and selected passages

1. How do you feel when you think about the return of Jesus Christ to earth? Are you scared or excited? Explain your answer. Do you feel "ready" for His return (*Luke 12:37*)? Why or why not?
2. What are the "times and dates" that the authors reference (*1 Thessalonians 5:1*)? What is the "day of the Lord" and how is it described (*1 Thessalonians 5:2*; *1 Corinthians 1:8*; *Luke 12:39-40*; *2 Peter 3:10-12*; *Joel 2:11*)?
3. Why will so many people be surprised when the day of the Lord comes (*1 Thessalonians 5:3*; *Matthew 24:36-39*)? Why will these people be caught off guard at the return of Christ (cf. *2 Corinthians 4:3-4*)?
4. What does it mean to belong to the light as opposed to the darkness (*1 Thessalonians 5:4-5*; *Acts 26:18*; *1 John 2:8-11*; *John 8:12*; *Ephesians 5:8*)? Which camp do you belong to? That of darkness or light? Explain your answer.

5. How can we prepare for the coming day of the Lord (*1 Thessalonians 5:6-7; Revelation 3:3; 16:15; Matthew 25:13*)? How does the battle armor imagery relate to our preparedness for this day (*1 Thessalonians 5:8; Romans 13:11-12; Ephesians 6:14-17; Isaiah 59:17*)?

6. God has not destined us for wrath (*1 Thessalonians 5:9; 1:10; Romans 5:9*)? What then has God destined us for when we trust in Jesus Christ (*2 Thessalonians 2:13-14*)? Does your future hope of salvation make a difference in your life each day (*1 Thessalonians 5:10-11*)? Why or why not?

7. How is God calling you to respond to this message and passage from *1 Thessalonians 5*? What can you do to get ready for Christ's return? How are you acting like someone who is "asleep" as opposed to someone who is "alert?"

Memory Verse:

**"So then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober."
(1 Thessalonians 5:6, NASB)**