GUIDED BIBLE STUDY · 6 SESSIONS

Ready for His Return

Jesus is coming again. Six sessions on what the Bible says about His return, the rapture and eternity, and how that hope should shape the way we live today.

1

I will come again

John 14:1-6; Acts 1:6-11

On the night before the cross, Jesus promised His troubled disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them and would come again. Forty days after the resurrection, angels repeated the promise as He ascended.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What reasons does Jesus give His disciples not to be troubled (John 14:1-3)?
2. What does Jesus say about the way to the Father (verse 6)?
3. What did the angels promise in Acts 1:11?
4. What task did Jesus give His followers while they wait (Acts 1:8)?

LIVE IT

Read John 14:1-3 at the start of each day this week.

PRAY

Thank Jesus for His promise to come again, and ask Him to make you His witness until He does.

2 Caught up together

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The believers in Thessalonica were grieving those who had died and wondering what would happen to them. Paul answers with the blessed hope of the rapture: the dead in Christ will rise, and we will be caught up together to meet the Lord.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. How is a believer's grief different from those "who have no hope" (verse 13)?
2. Describe the order of events in verses 16-17.
3. What does "we shall always be with the Lord" mean to you?
4. Paul says to comfort one another with these words (verse 18). Who could you encourage with them?

LIVE IT

Send these verses to someone who has lost a loved one who knew the Lord.

PRAY

Thank God for the hope of resurrection and of being with the Lord forever.

3 Signs of the times

Matthew 24:3-14, 36-44

The disciples asked Jesus what would signal His coming and the end of the age. He described deception, wars, famines, earthquakes and persecution, and then warned that no one knows the day or hour, so we must be ready.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What is the first warning Jesus gives (verses 4-5)? Why do you think it comes first?
2. Which of the signs in verses 6-12 do you see in the world today?
3. What must happen before the end comes (verse 14)?
4. Jesus compares His coming to the days of Noah (verses 37-39). What were people doing, and what is the lesson for us?

LIVE IT

Check out the prophecy news on Eternity Ready this week, and pray for the places in the headlines.

PRAY

Ask God to keep you alert, unshaken by fear and faithful to share the gospel.

4 Be ready

Matthew 25:1-13; Luke 12:35-40

Jesus told stories about servants and bridesmaids waiting for their master and bridegroom. Some were ready and some were not. Being ready isn't about predicting dates; it's about a living faith and faithful lives today.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What was the difference between the wise and foolish virgins (Matthew 25:1-4)?
2. Why couldn't the wise share their oil (verses 8-9)? What might the oil represent?
3. What does Jesus say about servants who are found watching (Luke 12:37)?
4. What would you change if you knew Jesus was coming back this week?

LIVE IT

Do the one thing you would want to have done if Jesus came back this week.

PRAY

Ask God to make you ready, watching and faithful until He comes.

5 Living holy while we wait

Titus 2:11-14; 2 Peter 3:8-14

The hope of Christ's return isn't meant to make us idle or fearful. Paul and Peter both say it should make us live godly, holy, eager lives now, and Peter explains why the Lord seems to be waiting: He is patient, not wanting anyone to perish.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What does God's grace teach us to say no to and yes to (Titus 2:11-12)?
2. Why does Paul call Christ's appearing "the blessed hope" (verse 13)?
3. Why hasn't the Lord come back yet, according to 2 Peter 3:9?
4. "What manner of persons ought ye to be?" (2 Peter 3:11). How would you answer?

LIVE IT

Pray every day this week for someone who isn't ready yet, and look for a chance to talk with them.

PRAY

Thank God for His patience, and ask Him to make your life holy and your witness clear.

6

All things new

Revelation 21:1-7; Revelation 22:1-5, 20-21

The Bible ends where it began, with God and His people together in a perfect world. No more tears, death, sorrow or pain. The last prayer in Scripture is the cry of every believer: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What will be gone in the new creation (Revelation 21:4)? Which one means the most to you?
2. What does "the tabernacle of God is with men" (21:3) tell us about heaven?
3. Who receives the water of life freely (21:6)? Who doesn't (21:8)?
4. How does picturing eternity help you with what you're facing today?

LIVE IT

Share the hope of heaven with someone this week. Are You Eternity Ready? (/ready) is a simple place to start.

PRAY

Pray the last prayer of the Bible: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."