

Checked and Ready (1 Thessalonians. 5:1-11)

What is the rapture? The Rapture is an End Times, Biblical event where all who put their trust in Christ, both living and deceased, will suddenly be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and be with Him forever.

The core message in this series: Be Ready!

*When it comes to being ready for departure, I can either _____ or _____

A. Warn the _____: 3 things I need to _____ before departure:

- Christ's return is _____
- Christ's return is _____
- Christ's return will mean _____

*I must speak the truth in love to _____ lies and deception

B. Win the _____: Three things I need to _____ before departure:

- My _____—I am a child of God (light and day)
- My _____—I choose to stay alert and sober

Sorrow looks back...worry looks around...hope looks _____

- My _____—faith, hope, love

*I must live a life that reveals the _____ (Be someone's "genuine Christian")

C. Worship with _____

Life Group Ice Breaker

1. Evacuation. What thought or emotion comes to mind when you think of that word? If you were evacuated due to the fires, what did you take with you? If you weren't evacuated, what would you pack?

Discussion Questions

2. What's one thing about the message that really stood out to you? Why did that grab your attention?
3. Read Matthew 24:36-44. Why do you think it's so tempting to try and guess the date of Christ's return instead living in hopeful expectation?
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11. What are the privileges of being "in the know" when it comes to the end times? What are the responsibilities?
5. Read 1 Peter 1:13-15. When you think of sober living, what comes to mind? How is the indifference you see in the world similar to sleepiness?

Application Questions & Prayer

6. As you think about warning others about Christ's return, who was the last person you have warned? Who has God put on your radar? If you are reluctant, what is keeping you from sharing?
7. What do you need to turn away from or turn towards to remain "alert and sober" as you wait for Christ's return?

8. Pray that God would use you to be a bold, winsome, and aware witness to those around you that are misled or wandering. Ask God to open the eyes and work in the hearts of those who don't know Him.

Links to Scripture References and Additional Study

Scripture references for the rapture: https://www.openbible.info/topics/the_rapture

Rapture vs 2nd Coming Chart: <https://gatewaybible.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Rapture-vs-2nd-Coming.pdf>

Millennial/Tribulation Views Chart: https://gatewaybible.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Millennial_views.jpg

Historical List of End Times Predictions: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_dates_predicted_for_apocalyptic_events

Precept Ministries International, Inductive Bible Study on The Second Coming of Christ:

https://www.preceptaustin.org/the_second_coming_of_Christ

David Jeremiah, Living in the Age of Signs: <https://www.davidjeremiah.org/age-of-signs/rapture>

DR. R.C. Sproul Lectures: The Last Days According to Jesus:

https://www.ligonier.org/learn/series/last_days_according_to_jesus/

Warren Wiersbe, Be Ready: Living in the Light of Christ's Return <https://www.amazon.com/Be-Ready-Christ's-Commentary-Thessalonians/dp/1434765016>

YouVersion Bible App Reading Plan, End Times: [go2.lc/theendplan](https://www.youversion.com/go2/lc/theendplan)