

The End.

Key Scriptures

1 Thess. 4:13-18 ¹³ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Cor. 15:51-52 ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Key Point:

Prophecy is not written to scare you, it's meant to prepare you!

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What future end times events intrigues you?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What are the differences between the rapture and the Second coming? (c.f. Matt 24:29-44 for passages from Sunday's message)
- Describe the following aspects of the rapture:
The dead in Christ:
Those who are alive:
Being with Christ in the air:
The transformation of our bodies:
The purpose of the rapture:

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- If you grew up in church, hearing about the rapture, was there ever a time when you wondered if you would be left behind? (If you didn't grow up hearing about it, or this was the first time, what are your thoughts about it now?)
- How do 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, and John 14: 1-3 offer a real hope? What do people do who have lost loved ones apart from the gospel?
- Complete this sentence: I'm looking forward to the rapture because. . .

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray specifically for those you know who don't believe the gospel, that God would bring opportunities to share, as well as others to influence them to the truth of scripture.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Revelation 1:3 promises a blessing for all who read it and apply the truths in the book. If you have not read Revelation, this would be a great time to begin.