



Faithful to the End
October 11, 2020
Sermon Discussion Guide

The Apostle Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians to a new church in the prosperous city of Thessalonica. The new converts were experiencing intense persecution, but remained faithful to the gospel and each other despite their circumstances. However, Paul learned they had become discouraged due to their ignorance and misunderstandings regarding the second coming of Christ/end times.

His letter to them challenges/encourages us to be resolved in our expectancy of Christ's return. We can know that Jesus is coming back because his death, burial, and resurrection validates his power to keep his promise to return. In the waiting, we should be informed of the details of his return, but not get so consumed with trying to know what hasn't been revealed (dates & times) that we lose the passion and urgency for our mission. In other words, since we have the expectation that Jesus will come again, we should live out his mission like he is coming soon. Believers in Christ need to **wake up** to the fact that we are children of light, **sober up** by living like it, and **point up** to encourage others to prepare themselves for the return of Christ.

HIGHLIGHT

- **Read the Text - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11**
- **Look for Highlights** - As the text is read, tell the group to be looking out for the highlights (a particular verse, something new learned, a reminder, a question, etc.)

EXPLAIN

- To whom was it originally written? Why?
- How does it fit with the verses before and after it?
- What is the Holy Spirit intending to communicate through this text?

APPLY

- What does this mean today?
- What is God saying to you personally?
- How can you apply this message to your life?

RESPOND

- In what ways does this passage call you to action?
- How will you be different because of what you've learned?
- What is a prayer to God in response to what you read today?