

ALL HAIL THE KING



Sermon Guide: The Christ Returns September 10 - September 16, 2023

NOTE TO GROUP LEADERS: We encourage you to incorporate these questions into your conversations during Group meetings. Don't feel like you have to get to every question. It's okay to pick and choose which ones you want to ask. Remember to create an environment of respect and openness where everyone's perspectives are valued. The goal is to foster a thoughtful and meaningful discussion that encourages personal growth and understanding.

CHECK-IN: Go around and have each person share how their week was. What was the high? What was the low? (*This is an informal time of sharing and if not everyone shares, that's okay.*)

If you were able to experience this week's worship service, share something that taught, encouraged, challenged or moved you. (*Song lyrics, graphics, stories, sermon, images, etc.*)

CONNECT: Share a brief personal reflection on what the idea of Jesus' return means to you and how it affects your faith.

GROW:

1. **Read Mark 13:1-37** as a group. You can take turns reading verses or have one person read the entire chapter. What are your first thoughts after reading this?
2. Why might it have been necessary for the temple to be destroyed?
3. What "temples" in your own life need to be "destroyed" so Jesus can reveal His kingship?
4. How does Jesus reveal His kingship in your life?
5. What may cause people to give up on faith, Jesus, the church?
6. Have you ever been tempted to give up on faith, Jesus, the church, etc.? Tell that story.
7. Jesus mentioned that His followers would face persecution. How can we stay strong in our faith during times of persecution?
8. Share any personal experiences or stories of Christians who have remained faithful in the face of adversity.
9. **Read Mark 1:15, John 16:33**, What's the encouragement here?
10. **Read Romans 8:22**. Why do you think Paul uses the pain of childbirth and not another form of pain?
11. **Read 1 Thess. 5:1-2, Rom. 13:12, Phil. 4:5, James 5:8, Rev. 22:20**. How does the thought of Christ's return impact our lives today?
12. In Mark 13:37, Jesus says, "And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake." What does this message mean for us as modern-day disciples?
13. How can we encourage one another to stay spiritually awake and prepared for Christ's return?

APPLICATION/PRAYER: Share specific steps or commitments you can make to stay strong in your faith while waiting for Jesus' return. Close in prayer, asking God for the strength to remain faithful and watchful as we await His glorious return.