



MARCH 23, 2024
THE KING WILL RETURN
MATTHEW 24:36-25:46

Introduction: Be ready!

Big Idea: Jesus is coming back, stay ready.

#1- Don't worry about WHEN He'll be back

#2- Sustain yourself for the long wait

*Live Fully in Worship
Love Deeply in Community
Give Freely in Service*

#3- Steward the resources God has given you

#4- Care for what God cares about

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

HARBOR OF HOPE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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Find us on FB, IG, and the Church Center App

Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. Take a moment to read Matthew 24:36-25:46, paying attention to the theme of what we do while we wait.
2. Kati shared about a time she wasn't ready, and got hit in the face with a softball. Can you think of a time when you weren't ready?
3. We said that only God the Father knows when Jesus will be back, so we shouldn't waste time trying to figure it out. How have you experienced getting caught up in trying to figure out when He'll be back? Can you see why Jesus might say not to do that?
4. The Church has been waiting for a long time for Jesus to return. While we may HOPE Jesus returns in our lifetime, He may not. What spiritual practices do you have in place to help you sustain your faith for the long haul? Is there anything you are missing in your spiritual practices that might be helpful to you? Or anything you'd like to try out to see if it helps?
5. We said that while we wait we are to steward the resources God has given us. What are some of your resources (think "time, talent, and treasure")?
6. Have you ever taken a spiritual gifts assessment? If yes- what are some of your spiritual gifts? If not, take one now! (giftstest.com has a free one!)
7. We ended with reading what will happen after Jesus comes back, how we will each have to give an account of what we've been up to with the things God has entrusted to us, how we've used them to care for what God cares about. How might you use the resources you just listed in order to serve others?
8. Close by praying for each other and asking for Jesus' help to stay ready while we wait!

Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

1. Talk: To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

2. Look Back (session 2+)

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

3. Read & Re-tell

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

4. Look

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

5. Look again

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

6. Inside me

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

7. Who else?

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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