



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Will I Be Raptured?*

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Service Date: March 16, 2025

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- From the sermon or your Formation Journal this past week, was there anything specific impacted you or ways God spoke to your heart?
- Often, it can be difficult to think about ways in which God has moved recently, but when we understand that His Spirit is always active, we should easily be able to identify and tell how God is working in our lives. Why do you think that so many Christians often have a hard time recounting quickly how God has moved recently? Does this ever happen in your group where not many testify regarding how God has worked recently?
- Do you think it's easy to get so into a routine of "doing life" that we easily miss out on recognizing how He's moving in and around us? Do you find yourself always "ready" to share a God-working moment to someone around you? (Remember, a testimony can be a simple God-working moment; it doesn't have to be an extreme life-change story.)

Sermon Discussion

- The sermon opened with the idea of waiting and that some individuals are waiting on something in their life. Is there something (or someone) you're currently either waiting on or something for which you've recently had to wait?
- Take a moment to read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. The passage ends with the idea of encouraging one another. In what ways do you find this passage encouraging? Would your friends/family say that this passage is encouraging or use another word (i.e. discouraging, scary, etc.)?
- Until the sermon Sunday, were you aware that the word "rapture" never appears in Scripture? The word started to be used in the context of Christ's return only in the 1830's. Yet, individuals have added the word and with it

has come numerous books and movies in recent years. Why do you think there's been such an emphasis on adding the word to Scripture (as well as timelines of Christ's return) when Jesus Himself says He didn't even know the date of His return?

- Have you ever viewed the waiting period for Jesus' return as a refining process in your life? If we are being refined in the waiting process, what things do you think God is trying to do in our lives as well as the potential impact we can have on those around us?
- 2 Corinthians 5:8 says, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." If Christ has forgiven all our sin and condemnation, is there anything left to fear for the faithful follower when Jesus returns, or we die?
- There are so many great things about Jesus' coming back for the believer. What do you find exciting about His return?
- How does the hope of Christ's return impact the way we live our lives today?
- Who in your life can you be helping get ready for Jesus' return? Take a moment in your group to pray for those who need to be taking spiritual steps to follow Jesus in every area of life.

Prayer Requests from Your Group:

Have you or someone in your group experienced a Story of Life Change?

We'd love to hear about it! In fact, one of Tri-Village's values is "Stories of Life Change". Visit tri-village.org/yourstory and share how God worked.