

*TO THE CHURCH OF THE*

# THESSALONIANS,

*GRACE TO YOU AND PEACE*

*When* is Jesus coming back?

How are we to *be ready*?

1.  
Jesus could return at any moment so be ready. (v.1-11)

“Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup> **For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.** <sup>3</sup> While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup> **Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.**

# 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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*While you have the light, believe in the light, **that you may become sons of light.***

**JOHN 12:36**

“

*For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light  
in the Lord. **Walk as children of light.***

EPHESIANS 5:8

“

*That you may be blameless and innocent, **children of God** without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, **among whom you shine as lights in the world.***

PHILIPPIANS 2:15

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1.  
Jesus could return at any moment so be ready. (v.1-11)

2.

Here are a few ways to be ready:

(v.12-22)

<sup>12</sup> We ask you, brothers, to **respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you**, <sup>13</sup> and to **esteem them very highly in love because of their work**. Be at peace among yourselves. <sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. <sup>15</sup> See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

# 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

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“

*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, **as those who will have to give an account.** Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, **for that would be of no advantage to you.***

**HEBREWS 13:17**

<sup>12</sup> We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, <sup>13</sup> and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. <sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brothers, **admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.** <sup>15</sup> See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

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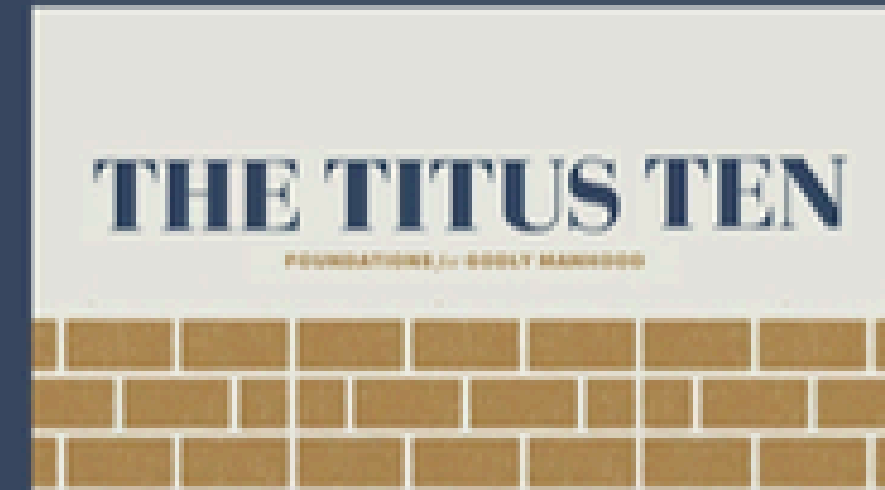


# LIVE THE TEXT

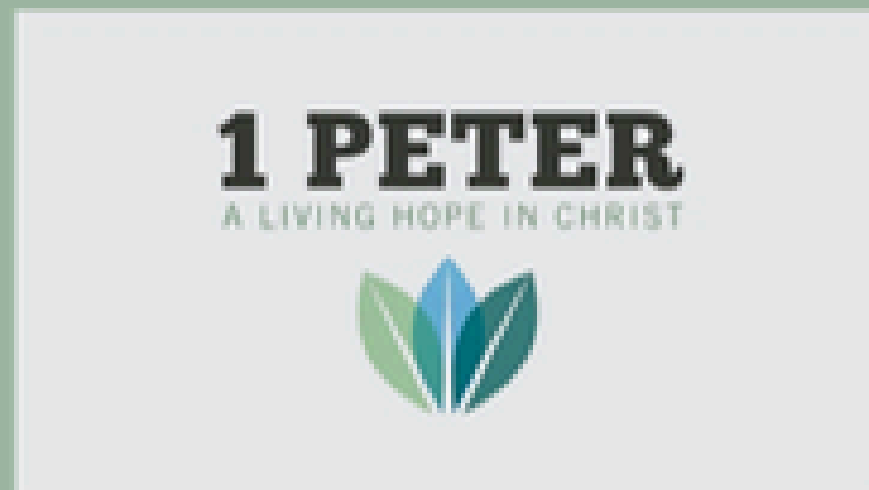
DISCIPLESHIP  
FOR THE FAMILY



DISCIPLESHIP  
FOR THE MEN



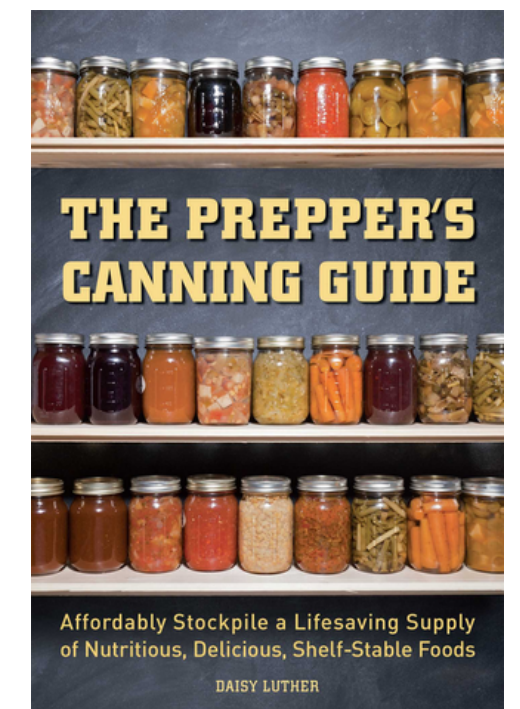
DISCIPLESHIP  
FOR THE WOMEN



DISCIPLESHIP  
FOR THE KIDS









### ***Be ready* for the return of Christ:**

- Respect & love your elders, pastors, and disciple-makers by being open to admonishment. (v.12-13)
- Be at peace with members of the congregation. (v.13)
- Don't be idle by not working for your holiness (4:3) or your wages (4:11-12). (v.14)
- Encourage those who are growing weak in faith with reminders of the hope of Christ's return. (The whole letter, really)
- Help those who are weak (sick or frail) within the congregation. (v.14)
- Be patient with those who are being corrected, who are low in faith, who are weak. (v.14)
- Do not tolerate actions of revenge within the body. (v.15)
- Rejoice always by remembering the promise of Christ's return. (v.16)
- Pray without ceasing (in other words, we can always pray more than we are so keep going!). (v.17)

# LIVE THE TEXT

## ***Be ready* for the return of Christ:**

- Be thankful (not for evil) but for what you trust the Lord to do with your circumstance. (v.18)
- Don't work against the Spirit when you are being prophesied over (being called to live out Christlikeness. (v.19-20)
- Receive exhortation and test it against the Scriptures, keeping what is true. (v.21)
- Don't engage in anything that goes against God's commands, character, and design (abstain from all forms of evil).

# LIVE THE TEXT