Living in the Light of Christ's Coming

1. **Living the new life**
2. **Living the life of discipleship**
3. **Living after the Holy Spirit**
4. **Living a life of prayer**
5. **Living a life of fellowship**
6. **Living to serve**
7. **Living to give**
8. **Living set apart**
9. **Living as salt and light**
10. **Living in the light of Christ's coming**

Session #10 The Living Series

Everyone is capable of being urgent. Before we gave our lives to Christ, there were different things that we were urgent for.

The question is not, can we be urgent, but what will we be urgent for?

Will we see the need for urgency, or will we settle into complacency?

Living with Biblical Urgency

- ***The Scriptures teach us that living with urgency means realizing how short life here really is; making the most of every God-given opportunity and living spiritually ready for Christ's return.***
- ***Instead of living with worry and panic, biblical urgency is intentional and purposeful living.***
- ***We focus on obeying the Lord and living for eternity.***
- ***We are not living for this life; we are living for the next one.***
- ***Urgency displaces complacency.***
- ***To be lackadaisical is to lack passion.***
- ***Without urgency, desires lose their value.***
- ***Biblical urgency is eternal urgency.***

John 14:1-3 "**Let not your heart be troubled**; you believe *{trust}* in God, believe *{trust}* also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions *{rooms; dwellings}*; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you**. And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also**."

- ***If we live with eternal urgency, we do not have settle for living with meaningless anxiety.***
- ***The Lord is preparing a new home for us.***
- ***The Lord is returning to receive us to Himself.***
- ***Being with the Lord forever is a motivator for living with biblical urgency.***

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For **the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout**, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air**. And **thus we shall always be with the Lord**. **Therefore comfort one another with these words**."

- ***The Lord Himself will return suddenly to call His Church home.***
- ***The Church will meet the Lord in the air.***
- ***The Church will be with the Lord for ever.***
- ***The Church should be comforting and encouraging one another with these words. Maranatha!***

1 Corinthians 15:50-52 "Now this I say, brethren, **that flesh and blood** *{our physical bodies}* **cannot inherit the kingdom of God**; **nor does corruption inherit incorruption** *{dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever}*. Behold, I tell you a mystery: **We shall not all sleep**, **but we shall all be changed— in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye** *{faster than a blink}*, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed**."

- ***We are not all going to die.***
- ***When the Lord returns, living Christians will be changed in an instant as they are caught up to meet the Lord.***
- ***Christians will put off mortality and put on immortality so we can live forever with the Lord in His presence.***
- ***This truth should have us living with biblical urgency.***

Luke 21:34-36 "But **take heed to** *{Watch out for}* **yourselves**, lest **your hearts** be weighed down *{dulled}* with carousing, drunkenness, and cares *{worries, worldly concern}* of this life, and **that Day come on you unexpectedly**. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. **Watch** *{Keep alert}* **therefore, and pray always that**

you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

- ***Christians must be watching themselves as they watch for the Lord.***
- ***Living with urgency is a matter of the heart.***
- ***Living to satisfy our fallen sin nature is not living with biblical urgency.***
- ***The Lord will return unexpectedly.***
- ***Christians are to live spiritually alert.***
- ***Christians are to be living intimately with the Lord.***
- ***Living urgently, is living intimately with the Lord.***
- ***We do not have to go through the Great Tribulation because we can be caught up to meet the Lord and stand before Him.***

Mark 13:33-37 "**Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is**. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and **to each his work**, and commanded the doorkeeper **to watch**. **Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming**—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— **lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping**. And **what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!**""

- ***Living with urgency is how not to be caught off guard.***
- ***Keep working.***
- ***Keep watching.***
- ***How will the Lord find us living when He returns?***

Ezekiel 16:49-50 "Look, this was **the iniquity** of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had **pride**, **fullness of food** *{gluttony}*, and **abundance of idleness** *{laziness}*; **neither did** she **strengthen the hand of the poor and needy**. And they were **haughty** and **committed abomination before Me**; therefore I took them away as I saw fit."

- ***Pride: Living with a sense of self-importance and conceit.***
- ***Gluttony: Having an abundance of food and living in luxury or prosperous ease.***
- ***Laziness: Spending time in careless, inactive comfort without concern.***
- ***Neglect of the Poor: Failing to help, strengthen, aid, or show compassion to the poor, needy, and oppressed.***
- ***Abominable Practices: Committing abominations and haughty behavior that led to divine judgment and destruction.***

Romans 13:8-14 "**Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law**. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery,"

"You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself**." **Love does no harm to a neighbor**; **therefore love is the fulfillment of the law**. And **do this** *{this is all the more urgent}***, knowing the time** *{it's getting late}*, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; **for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed**. The night is far spent, **the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness**, and **let us put on the armor of light**. **Let us walk properly** *{live decently}*, as in the day, not in revelry *{wild parties}* and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife *{arguing}* and envy. But **put on the** *{presence of the}* **Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts** *{don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires}*."

- ***Living with urgency is living a life of love.***
- ***Living with urgency is living mindful of the time in which we are living.***
- ***Living with urgency is casting off the works of darkness.***
- ***Living with urgency is living properly.***
- ***Living with urgency is living under the lordship of Jesus Christ.***

2 Peter 3:10-13 "But **the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night** *{unexpectedly}*, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, **what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for** and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, **look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells**."

- ***The fact that the Lord is returning to judge the world should lead us to living urgently, evangelistically, holy, and godly.***

Luke 21:25-28 ""And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; **men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth,** for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see **the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory**. Now when these things begin to happen, **look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near**.""

- ***True biblical urgency is focused, prayerful, and anchored in eternal priorities rather than in temporal pursuits.***
- ***Living with urgency looks forward to our Redeemer coming for us.***

- ***“Time is short. Eternity is long. It is only reasonable that this short life be lived in the light of eternity.” -Charles Spurgeon***