

### GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Hurricanes, floods, and natural disasters have become more frequent. How would you respond if you received an early warning of an approaching storm?*

*Mark 13 unfolds in three stages: Birth Pains (vv. 1–13), Tribulation (vv. 14–23), and Rescue (vv. 24–27). In verses 14–24, what words, images, or figures signal the shift from the early “birth pains” to the intense labor of tribulation?*

*1 John 2:18-24 refers not only to the specific individual referenced in Mark 13:14, but to many antichrists who have spread a false teaching concerning the Gospel. What is the Gospel we are called to defend (1 Corinthians 15:1–8)? How can we prepare to recognize and resist false teachings?*

*Mark 13:22 shows even God’s people can be deceived by false Christs performing signs and wonders. What is the most reliable test of a prophet or prophecy (Deuteronomy 13:1–4)? How can we guard ourselves against deception?*

*2 Peter 3:17 cautions, “take care that you are not carried away” during times of testing. How do Jesus’ warnings in Mark 13:9 and 23 echo this call to stand firm? What does steadfast faith look like in daily life (1 Peter 2:19–23; 4:1–19; 2 Peter 3:10–18)?*

*Verses 24-25 describe cosmic shaking points that are out of our control, but that a glorious rescue is coming when all will be made right. Why (and for whom) will “those days” be cut short?*

*False teachings and misleading voices are common in times of uncertainty. What practical habits—like Scripture reading, prayer, or accountability—can help you discern truth from deception? How might you lovingly correct or guide others who are vulnerable to false teaching?*

### GOING FURTHER

#### MEMORIZE:

*Psalm 34:17. “When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.*

## **NOTES FOR GROUP LEADERS:**

### **SUGGESTED GROUP FLOW** *(based on 60-75 min group meeting)*

Catch Up → Announcements → Read & Discuss Passage → Group Discussion → Prayer  
5-10 min      2-3 min      10-15 min      30-40 min      15-20 min

### **NOTE FOR LEADER:**

As we study the book of Mark, consider taking the following approach to help your group gain a greater understanding of the book, as well as apply the lessons from it. **FIRST**, read the passage from Mark (see top of previous page) aloud as a group. **SECOND**, spend some time discussing the passage. What stood out or what did you notice? What questions did you have about what you read? **THIRD**, discuss the sermon from the weekend. Was there anything that you learned, confused you, or stood out to you? **LAST**, spend some time going through the discussion questions below.

If there are no group announcements listed, take a few minutes to visit [obcc.church/events](http://obcc.church/events) to see what's coming up. Pay attention to baptism dates, next step classes, or events your group can attend together.