

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have you ever spent time trying to figure out “what’s next” or worrying about things you can’t control? How did it affect your focus on what you were actually supposed to do?

Read **Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 1:6–8** When the disciples asked about the timing of God’s kingdom, Jesus pointed them back to their calling to be witnesses. What makes us more interested in knowing God’s plans than obeying God’s commands? How can we realign our hearts toward His mission rather than knowing the unknown?

Jesus’ instruction to flee immediately (**Mark 13:15–18**) shows that obedience sometimes requires urgent action. How does this challenge the way we respond when God prompts us to act quickly or decisively? Where might delayed obedience be holding you back spiritually?

In **Mark 13**, Jesus’ warning is meant to prepare His people, not panic them. How does seeing Jesus as a protective shepherd change the way you hear His warnings? Can you think of a time when obeying Jesus felt hard in the moment but later proved protective and wise?

Read **Isaiah 46:9–10** God declares He is in control of all history. How does this perspective help you live in peace rather than panic? How can the news, politics, or future predictions pull us away from the work God has called us to today?

Read **Revelation 22:13** How does trusting God’s control over history free us from obsessing over world events, end-times speculation, or conspiracies? How can this trust reshape the way you respond to current events or global crises?

What daily habits can help you remain mission-focused, even when news, politics, or speculation feel overwhelming? How can you hold yourself accountable to keep your eyes on Christ instead of fear or distraction?

GOING FURTHER

MEMORIZE: Mark 13:13 “And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”

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 to see what's coming up. Pay attention to baptism dates, next step classes, or events your group can attend together.