

1. Do you feel that the return of Jesus is treated as a core doctrine and blessed hope by Christians in our generation?
2. Why is it significant for us that Paul declares the doctrine of the last things “by a word from the Lord?”
3. How could Paul’s instructions help Christians who feared that their loved ones had missed out by dying too soon?
4. Why might Christians see the promises of (1) being caught up together with them and (2) being always with the Lord as the ultimate fulfillment of the gospel?
5. How should we encourage each other with the doctrine that Jesus Christ will return?