

Life Group Guide – Week Starting Sunday 12th July 2026

Key Scriptures: Mark Chapter 13

This week's BIG IDEA

Last week we explored the first fulfilment of Jesus' prophecy in the destruction of Jerusalem in AD70. This week we turn our attention to the second great fulfilment: the return of Jesus Christ.

Rather than encouraging fear or endless speculation about the end times, Jesus calls his disciples to live with hope, faithfulness and readiness. Because we know Christ will return, we can confidently care for his Church, remain alert against deception, and continue his mission until he comes again.

Focusing on God

Spend a few minutes reminding yourselves of last week's study. Jesus' prophecy in Mark 13 points to two separate 'The Day of the Lord' events: the Fall of Jerusalem and the Temple in AD70, and the second coming of Christ. The first helps us understand the second.

Read together **Mark 13:14-37**.

Make a list of the warning instructions that Jesus repeatedly gives throughout this passage. [e.g. *Be on your guard, do not be deceived, do not be alarmed, keep watch, etc ...*].

Our Future Hope

Read together:

- **1 Thessalonians 4:16-18** | **Revelation 21:1-5** | **Philippians 2:5-11**

Discuss together:

- What do these passages teach us about Jesus' return?
- How is the Bible's teaching about the end intended to give believers hope rather than fear?
- Which promise particularly encourages you today?

Throughout the New Testament, the Second Coming is presented as the great hope of God's people. It reminds us that evil will not have the final word, suffering will end, death will be defeated and Jesus will reign forever.

Discipleship Discussion

Jesus repeatedly tells His followers to "keep watch", but what does that actually look like?

Discuss together:

- Why do you think Jesus tells us to stay ready instead of trying to work out when He will return?
 - How can Christians guard themselves against deception and false teaching today?
 - Why is being committed to a healthy local church so important in helping us stay faithful?
 - The sermon suggested that "keeping watch" means faithfully caring for God's house until the Master returns. What does that look like in everyday life?
 - How does the certainty that "Jesus wins in the end" change the way we face anxiety, suffering or uncertainty today?
 - Is there an area of your life where God is calling you to be more watchful, faithful or ready?
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Prayer Response

Spend time praying for one another that you would remain faithful, discerning and full of hope as you await Christ's return.

Pray:

- For the Church to remain faithful to God's Word and protected from false teaching.
- For courage and perseverance for Christians facing persecution around the world.
- For Everyday Church to be a place of refuge, truth, love and discipleship.
- For opportunities to share the Gospel while there is still time.
- Thanking Jesus that he is King, that he will return, and that one day he will make all things new.