



The End | Our Conduct Until the Day | Mark Allen | 9.21.25

OPENING PRAYER & ICEBREAKER

Icebreaker Question: If you knew Jesus was returning in exactly one week, what would you change about how you're living today?

KEY SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 3:10-18 and Psalm 94:1-23

Sermon Summary

This message addresses how believers should conduct themselves while awaiting Christ's return. We examined both the conduct of the godless (those who deny God's coming judgment) and the conduct of the godly (those who live in anticipation of His return). The sermon challenges us to be diligent, on guard, and growing in our faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Part 1: The Reality of Christ's Return

1. **Read 2 Peter 3:10-12.** What emotions or thoughts come to mind when you think about the Lord's return? Excitement? Fear? Indifference? Why?

2. Pastor Mark mentioned people saying things like "I want to get married before the Lord comes back" or "I want grandkids first." What earthly desires or milestones do you find yourself prioritizing over spiritual readiness?
3. How does believing that heaven will be "so incredible" change your perspective on what you might "miss out on" if Jesus returns soon?

Part 2: The Conduct of the Godless

4. **Read Psalm 94:1-11.** What parallels do you see between the behavior described in this psalm and what's happening in our world today?
5. The psalmist asks, "Who will stand up for me against evildoers?" (v. 16). In what areas has the church been dwelling "in the abode of silence"? Where do you personally feel called to take a stand?
6. Discuss the balance between being a "God of love" and a "God of justice." Why is it dangerous to emphasize one without the other?

Part 3: The Conduct of the Godly

Be Diligent (2 Peter 3:14)

7. The sermon emphasized that we're not saved by works, but faith without works is dead. What's the difference between trying to earn salvation and living out your salvation through diligent effort?
8. In what specific areas of your spiritual life do you need to be more diligent? (Examples: prayer, Bible study, worship, service, character development)
9. The three aspects mentioned were: **peace, spotlessness/blamelessness, and salvation.** Which of these do you struggle with most, and why?

Be On Guard (2 Peter 3:17)

10. **Read 2 Peter 3:16-17.** What are some ways "unprincipled men" distort Scripture today? How can we protect ourselves from false teaching?
11. The pastor mentioned guarding our ears (music), eyes (TV/movies), and relationships (friends). Which of these areas needs the most attention in your life?
12. "Show me your ten closest friends, and I'll show you your future." How are your closest relationships influencing your walk with Christ—positively or negatively?

Grow (2 Peter 3:18)

13. **Read 2 Peter 3:18.** What does it mean practically to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"?
14. The sermon mentioned that growth is sometimes painful (like growing pains in children). What painful growth experiences have you gone through spiritually? What did you learn?
15. What "watering" and "fertilizing" does your spiritual life need right now? What needs to be pruned?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

✓ **Jesus WILL return**—it's not a question of if, but when. We should live with this reality in mind every day.

✓ **God is both love AND justice**—He is patient, but His patience will not last forever. Judgment is coming.

✓ **The church must stop dwelling in silence**—We are called to stand up against evil and speak truth in a world that denies God.

✓ **Three actions for believers:**

Be Diligent (work on character, conduct, and spiritual disciplines)

Be On Guard (protect what goes into your heart, mind, and relationships)

Grow (pursue spiritual maturity through prayer, worship, and God's Word)

✓ **God will not abandon His people**—Even when we stumble, His loving kindness holds us up (Psalm 94:18).

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE area from each category below to focus on this week:

BE DILIGENT:

- ☐ Set aside 15 minutes daily for prayer
- ☐ Read one chapter of Scripture each day
- ☐ Identify one character flaw and take concrete steps to address it
- ☐ Serve someone in your church or community

BE ON GUARD:

- ☐ Audit your entertainment choices (music, TV, social media) and eliminate one thing that doesn't honor God
- ☐ Have an honest conversation with a trusted friend about influences in your life
- ☐ Memorize a Scripture verse to combat a specific temptation
- ☐ Limit screen time and replace it with worship or Bible study

GROW:

- ☐ Start a prayer journal to track your spiritual growth
- ☐ Join a Bible study or accountability group
- ☐ Read a Christian book that challenges you spiritually
- ☐ Practice worship as if Jesus were returning in five minutes

Accountability Partner

Pair up with someone in your group and share:

1. Which of the three areas (diligent, on guard, grow) is hardest for you?
2. What specific step will you take this week?
3. How can your partner pray for you?

Exchange contact information and check in mid-week.

For Those Who Don't Know Jesus

If you're in this group and have never accepted Jesus as your Savior, today can be your day of salvation. Here's how:

1. **Acknowledge** you're a sinner in need of a Savior (Romans 3:23)
2. **Believe** that Jesus died for your sins and rose again (Romans 10:9)
3. **Confess** Jesus as Lord and invite Him into your life (Romans 10:13)

Simple Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I confess that I'm a sinner and I need You. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I invite You into my heart as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. Amen."

If you prayed this prayer, please share with your group leader or pastor!

Closing Prayer Points

- Pray for boldness to stand up for truth in a godless culture
- Pray for diligence, discernment, and spiritual growth
- Pray for those who don't know Jesus—that today would be their day of salvation
- Pray for readiness—that we would live each day as if Jesus were returning today

Next Steps

- Share one insight from this discussion on social media or with a friend
- Review your "This Week's Challenge" daily
- Come prepared next week to share how God worked in your life through these commitments

Memory Verse: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen." — 2 Peter 3:18