



GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

Hope for the Future

Speaker: Shane Condon

Highlighted Scriptures

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Psalms 46:1–3, 9–11 (NIV)

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the

nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Discussion Questions

- 1. How does the hope of resurrection in 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 change the way we process grief and loss?**
- 2. What does it mean to grieve with hope, rather than without it?**
- 3. In what ways does Psalm 46 challenge us to trust God when the world feels unstable?**
- 4. How can we “be still and know” that God is in control during times of violence or unrest?**
- 5. Who in your life may need encouragement from these passages today, and how can you share it with them?**

Reflection Challenge

- This week, pray for families who are grieving due to violence or loss, asking God to comfort them with His presence and the hope of Christ.**
- When fear or worry arises, pause and repeat the words: “Be still, and know that I am God.”**
- Look for one opportunity to encourage someone with hope in Christ—through a word, prayer, or simple act of kindness.**

Prayer Prompt

Lord, our hearts are heavy when we see violence in the world and when lives are cut short. We lift up the families and communities grieving today—bring them comfort through the hope we have in Jesus, that death is not the end. Father, when fear rises in our hearts because of danger or unrest, remind us that You are our refuge and fortress. Teach us to be still in Your presence and to trust in Your sovereignty. Fill us with courage to live by faith, and let Your peace guard our hearts. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

