

THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

events

Aloha! Thanks for worshipping with us either online or in person. Please wear your mask before and after the service.

Visitors, we have a gift for you at the Welcome Table.

Please sign in your children for **Nursery and Kid's Church**.

Middle School Youth Group
Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm

Andrew is teaching a **class on the Reformation** on Thursday evenings, 5:30 to 7 pm on November 4, 11, and 18.

Operation Christmas Child boxes are due next Sunday.

Men's Breakfast November 13

Food Drive next Sunday

Please welcome Louanne Copeland as our new **Children's Ministry Director**.

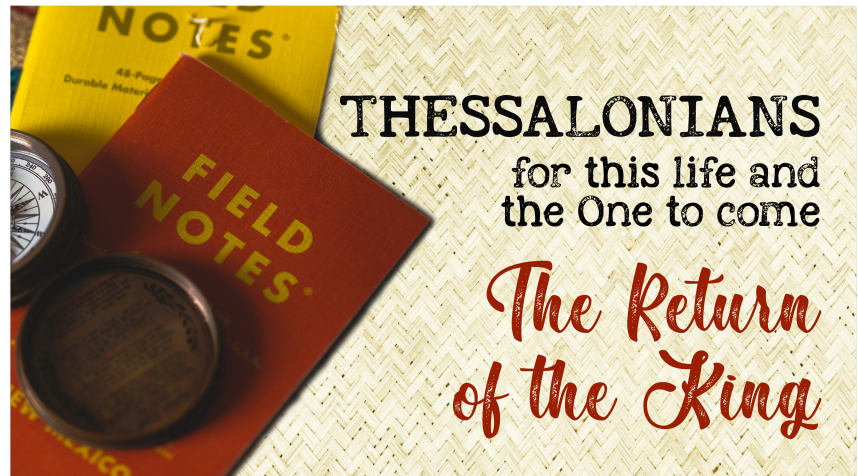
Communion today.

Ways to Give:

- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church

Giving January thru October

- Budgeted - \$279,167
- Actual - \$292,558



Andrew Severinsen

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Big Idea: Paul now begins to explain God's moral will on 5 major issues (4:1-5:22). In 4:13-5:11, Paul fast-forwards to the future to discuss the return of Jesus (4:13-18) and the Day of the LORD (5:1-11), and how Christians are to live in light of this breathtaking hope. **These are meant to be notes of encouragement.**

- Issue #3: Jesus' Return

Therefore encourage one another with these words.

- Issue #4: The Day of the LORD

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

GRACE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Return of the Lord (4:13-18)

- Since Christians have such a stunning hope, does Paul expect us not to grieve? Why or why not? How should our hope affect the way in which we grieve?
- Summarize the sequence of events in these verses. Does the language of verse 16 suggest that Christ's return will be a secret event (recognized only by Christians) or a public event (recognized by all)?
- According to verse 16, deceased Christians will be raised in response to Christ's "cry of command." It is a bit odd to think of dead persons being commanded to do something they themselves cannot do. But what is the theological significance of this? For example, in what ways does this verse correspond to the story of Lazarus in John 11? How about Ephesians 2:1-10?
- As you read Paul's description of your future in verses 13-18, which words capture your heart most? Amid the clamor of archangels and trumpets and dead bodies being infused with life, do not overlook the end of verse 17. Why is this the most wonderful promise of the entire passage?

The Day of the Lord (5:1-11)

- What is the relationship between the event in 4:13-18 and the event in 5:1-11? Is Paul describing two comings or one?
- Read Matthew 24:36-51 and note from where Paul draws his language of the Day of the Lord as being like a "thief in the night" (1 Thess 5:2). Will the day come as a sudden surprise for believers? Why or why not?
- The Day of the Lord will be sudden (verse 3) and surprising (verse 4) to those in darkness, preceded by confident declarations such as, "There is peace and security" (verse 3). Although the immediate cultural backdrop of Paul's words was likely Roman imperial propaganda declaring the *pax romana* (the peace of Rome), the sentiment is still relevant today. Where in our culture do you see the assumption that there is peace and security? Where are you most tempted to find peace and security outside of Jesus?
- 1 Thess 5:9 tells us what believers are *not* "destined" for. Where else in 1 Thessalonians have we encountered this word? How should we understand the relationship between the promises in these two passages, and how should we live in light of them?
- In what ways are eschatology and ethics "twin siblings," according to 1 Thess 4:13-5:11?