

ROMANS 13:11-14

SPIRITUAL GAME PLAN

Big Idea: Because the return of Christ is drawing near, believers must wake up spiritually, put away the works of darkness, and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

WAKE UP (Romans 13:11-12a)

- What does Paul mean when he says believers must “know the time,” and how should the certainty of Christ’s return create urgency in the Christian life? (e.g. Matthew 24:36-51; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6)
- What does spiritual “sleep” look like in the life of a genuine believer, and what are some warning signs that we have become spiritually complacent? (e.g. Ephesians 5:14-17; Revelation 3:1-3)
- What does it mean that “our salvation is nearer than when we first believed,” and how should we live differently knowing that “the day is at hand”? (e.g. Romans 8:23-25; Philippians 3:20-21)

THROW OFF (Romans 13:12b-13)

- Why does Paul describe sin as “deeds of darkness,” and what does it mean practically for a Christian to cast them off? (e.g. Ephesians 5:8-12; Colossians 3:5-10)
- Why do you think Paul mentions the specific sins that he does in v. 13, and how do these sins hinder a believer from “walking properly as in the daytime”? (e.g. Galatians 5:19-21; 1 John 2:9-11)
- How should knowing that our lives are lived before God change both our private and public conduct? (e.g. Psalm 139:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:5-8)

PUT ON (Romans 13:14)

- What does Paul mean by the command to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ,” and how is this more than simply trying harder to behave like Jesus? (e.g. Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:1-2)
- What does it mean to “make no provision for the flesh,” and why does overcoming sin require us not only to resist temptation but also to remove opportunities for the flesh? (e.g. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13; 2 Timothy 2:22)
- How does “putting on the Lord Jesus Christ” enable believers to overcome the works of darkness and the desires of the flesh? (e.g. Galatians 5:16-25; Colossians 3:1-4)