

FAITH, FEAR, AND ★ POLITICS

WEEK FOUR The Return of the King

MAIN IDEA

Be ready, stay focused.

STARTER

Would you rather be around when Jesus walked the earth 2000 years ago or be around when He returns?

SCRIPTURE EMPHASIS

As a group, read this parable before you begin your discussion:

- Matthew 25:1-13

UNPACKING WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT . . .

- Do you feel like we are close to or in the end times? Why or why not?
- If you knew that Jesus was coming back in one year, would it change the way you live in this coming year? How so?
- Read Matthew 24:45-51 - this is another parable about when Jesus will return.
 - What is the servant's daily job?
 - Does the job change just because his master went away?
 - Does his job change just before his master returns?
 - Does he ask the servant to act differently or take on more tasks when the servant thinks the master is about to return?
 - In verse 46 what level of performance is the master looking for in the servant?
 - What is the best thing that the servant can do to ensure that his master is pleased when He returns?

- We are like the servant - our job doesn't change if these are the end times. We just need to keep walking with God and stay ready.
 - Is there something that is getting in the way of you walking with God right now?
 - Would you like to get rid of that thing that stands in the way of your readiness?

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK

Remove one thing from your life that has caused you to lose your focus of living ready - as if Jesus would return at any moment.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The Bible project has a great summary of heaven and earth and what the second coming really means - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy2AQIK6C5k>