



Worship Guide for May 23, 2021

## Sermon Notes

### **Living in Light of the End**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

This morning we are taking a brief departure from our study through the book of Revelation, but we will continue to consider what Scripture has to say about the end to which our sovereign Lord is bringing all of history. In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul is compelled to offer insight into the curiosity, questions, and confusion of the believers in that city as to what all that end entails. The Apostle responds not by offering further details in an effort to scratch their curious itch, but instead by offering encouragement concerning how the certainty of the coming Day of the Lord should affect the lives of believers in the here and now. Just like for us in our day, the present circumstances for those believers caused them to long for that day, which is a good thing, and they longed to know how all the pieces fit together. And like believers today, they had a choice to make. Would they embrace the façade of peace offered by the surrounding culture, or would they press on in obedience and faith by resting in the certainty (although lack of complete understanding) of God's promises for then, even if it resulted in suffering in the present?

The Truth of Christ's Return (v. 1-2)

The Contrasting Postures (v. 3-5)

The Exhortation (v. 6-11)

## Weekly Discipleship Guide

### Know

**What does God intend for me to know?  
In your journal, use the following prompts to write  
some truths that stood out from this week's message.**

I never knew...	I was reminded...	A question I still have...
I was challenged...	I was convicted...	A truth I could share...
I was encouraged to...		I need to dig deeper into...

### Be (Consider)

**What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?  
In your journal, use the following questions to write  
some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.**

Is there a command to obey?	Am I convicted to confess any sin?
How am I compelled to exalt God?	Is there a sin to avoid?
Is there a promise to claim?	How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?
Is there a principle to follow?	How can I pray for someone else?
Is there an example to follow?	What am I compelled to love or desire?

### Do (Yield)

**How does God's Word call me to yield my life?  
In your journal, write your answers and thoughts  
in response to the following questions.**

How has our continued look to the end God will bring about strengthened you in your walk with Christ? What has it compelled you to do?

What are some various offerings of peace that many have placed their hope in? What makes them so persuasive and dangerous to the hearts and minds of believers?

What does it actually look like for the believer to dress him or herself in the armor that Paul urges us to wear? What do we have to believe about God and the gospel in order to live in these ways?

*\*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.*

#### Westwood Staff

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