

Home Group Questions

the week of 1/12/2020

Acts 1:1-11

CHANGE IS COMING

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on the book of Acts by focusing on the instructions given to the disciples by Jesus in Acts chapter 1 as well as the instructions given to the disciples by the angels who appeared to them after Jesus ascended into heaven.

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. Read Acts 1:1-11. Discuss this passage together. What are some of the key instructions that Jesus gives about the future and about the mission of the church? What is the significance of the disciples being witnesses in Judea and SAMARIA? What does that tell us about one of the outcomes of the gospel in this world. Pastor Mel preached this past weekend on the second coming of Christ and that Jesus will return as expressed in Acts 1:11. Why do you think that was important for the disciples to understand as they were told by the angels to return to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit?

2. Read Romans 13:11-14. What does the passage imply about believers when it says “Wake from your sleep”? In what ways are believers “sleeping” in today’s world? How should being aware of the prophecies of Scripture and the ‘signs of the times’ impact the lives of true followers of Christ? Even though we don’t know the exact hour of Christ’s return, this passage implies we should be changed by it? How should the return of Christ make us more engaged in the work of Christ and what do you think it means when it states that we should put on the “armor of light”?

3. Knowing that Jesus is returning is an important truth in the Christian faith. What specifically have you observed

in this world that indicates to you that the prophecies of Scripture are accurate and lead you to believe that the return of Christ may be nearer than many think?

4. Read Matthew 24:36-44. Here Jesus relates the time of Noah to the time of His second coming. What are some other similarities that you can see in how people were saved by the ark and the coming of the Lord when he saves the church? How can we best prepare for the second coming of Christ so that we are not taken by surprise?

- Noah clearly chose obedience to God over acceptance with the world around him. How do we balance reaching out to a lost world without becoming overly concerned about being accepted by them? What are some warning signs that we may be compromising our message, or our lives in an effort to be heard by the world?

- Noah stayed in the ark for more than a year, yet patiently waited for the Lord’s instructions in **Genesis 8:15-9:7**. Noah and his family waited for the Lord’s timing in the resolution of this amazing flood. How does that relate to the storms and trials we go through in our lives? What does it mean to wait for God’s resolution in some of the trials and difficulties we face?

5. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 & 2 Thess. 2:1-12. We looked at the rapture in previous series that we have done at Riverview. Feel free (if you have time) to discuss these passages again and how they relate to the future and our attitudes about the second coming of Christ...**Remember: IT’S OK TO BELIEVE DIFFERENTLY ABOUT THE VIEWS ON THE RAPTURE, DON’T GET INTO ARGUMENTS ABOUT THESE THINGS.**

MOVING FORWARD...

Pray that Jesus’ return would encourage you in your walk with Christ and motivate you to be a light for Him in a world that is lost in darkness.