

Transition:

Many Christians believe that the prophecy Jesus speaks of in this section was fulfilled in 70 AD by Emperor Titus of Rome. Some believe Jesus is speaking of the rapture, or His second coming. Regardless, there are woes and warnings, perhaps the most of any chapter, which are words directly from our Lord Jesus to heed and watch.

Tell the story:

Tell the story (with passion!) Do the best you can, don't stop and teach, try not to make points, just tell the story. Perhaps leave some parts out or make a mistake, just to see if your group catches it!

Rebuild the story:

Chronologically rebuild the story by asking questions. Have the group look for what was added or left out by looking in their Bibles and going back over the story. Then have someone else tell the story the best they can – just like you modeled the first time

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you know whether or not this teaching, or any teaching you hear, is biblical?
2. How does this contend with the Jewish religion and their understanding of the Messiah? (Dan 9:24-26, Hag 2:9, Mal 3:1)
3. What do you think Jesus meant by “stay awake?”

Fundamental:

End Times - With the same confidence that we have in the truth that Jesus will save our souls and that he rose from the grave, we must trust in His imminent return. All of creation awaits this, history has marched toward it, and it is the blessed hope of the Church. The justice of God demands that the nations of wicked men who mock His law shall receive the great restitution of all things.

1. What does readiness look like practically?
2. How is it that the elect are sustained through tribulation (If they are there!)? (Ps 119:165, 121; Phl 1:6; Jude 1:24)
3. What will happen to heaven and earth in the last days? (2 Pet 3:7)
4. Why does the servant begin to act wickedly? Is it a faith issue?

Homework/Challenge:

1. Put an alarm on your phone to remind you to pray for the nations and the Lord's coming.
2. Please read Matthew 25 in preparation for next week.

Discipleship Tip:

You can easily get into the weeds when discussing the End Times. The important thing here is to focus on being ready and watchful. Essentially, to ask yourself, “What is Jesus asking us/me to do?”

Prayer:

In prayer this week, ask the Lord to soften your heart so that in the times ahead, our hearts will not grow cold, but remain hopeful and expectant for His return.

