

# LG | Leader

[1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:11]

## WARM-UP (10 mins)

**God's word is like oxygen to our souls. We desperately need it. Take a moment to pray for spiritual awakening in these next moments as we encounter His word.**

- After hearing the sermon from Sunday, what most resonated with you? What were the takeaways for your family as a whole?
- In light of Sunday's message, have you resolved to make any life changes?

## ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

**Open your Bibles to the primary text.**

1. Read our primary text. Let's gain some context for this passage. Who is the author and who is the audience? Who recalls the theme and purpose of 1 Thessalonians?

Paul is responding to a report from Timothy concerning the believers in Thessalonica. Paul had been kicked out of the city during his last visit there (see Acts 17). Because of this, he sent Timothy to report back concerning these new believers. The believers in Thessalonica were struggling in their understanding of the Second Coming of Christ, so Paul is writing to clarify some things for them.

2. In 5:1, it seems Paul desires to address a specific topic, as if he has been asked a question. Why do you think it is phrased, "Now concerning..."?

Remember that Paul is responding to a letter from Timothy. There are several things that Timothy brought to Paul's attention in his letter regarding the church and Paul desires to address each of them.

3. In chapter 4:18 and chapter 5:11, Paul says to these believers to encourage (comfort) one another. How do these two blocks of text bring comfort to our souls?

We are not to grieve as those who have no hope (4:13). Those who are in Christ can look to him and know that we will be raised with him at the End of Days (Romans 6:4). In this truth, we can comfort one another...we have a great hope.

4. Using 4:13-18 as your framework, how would you describe the Second Coming to someone else?

[This is a topic that many have questions about. It is important that we know where to go in the Bible to seek understanding on these topics.]

5. How does the Bible end? Do you know? Let's read the last 2 verses together.

Read Revelation 22:20-21. Jesus said, "Surely I am coming soon." – [Are you ready? Is your family ready?]

6. In light of our primary text, how does passage fit into the greater redemptive history? How does this passage lead us to the gospel?

There is pain, grief, and sorrow in this world, but this was not God's original design. He created us to be in communion with Him but sin created a chasm between us and God. In our sin and shame, He sent His son Jesus, that through Jesus Christ can be reconciled with God and be brought back into relationship with Him, to the Glory of God the Father. This is the good news of the gospel. Jesus Christ saves!

7. What do you think is the most encouraging verse in this passage? Why? How could you use this verse to encourage another?

Verse 9 - For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. This place is not our home, In Christ we are destined for salvation!

## **PRAY**

**Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.**