Gospel | The Gospel Gives Us a Future Hope | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Nick Roland

#### **BELONG**

What is something you hope to be remembered for?

### **GROW**

**Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.** In this important passage about the dead and the living rising with Christ, what reasons does Paul provide in verses 13 and 18 regarding his purpose in writing these things? Why would these purposes be important for Christians in the 1st Century as well as today?

What does Paul mean when he uses the term "asleep" in verses 13-14? (Note that this terminology is used the same way in Mark 5:39 and John 11:11. Use Bible notes or commentary if needed to understand this.)

How is a Christian's grief over the loss of a loved one different from that of someone who is not a Christian? Have you experienced this or seen this in others?

Going Deeper: The topic, "coming of the Lord," was clearly on Paul's mind as he wrote this letter to the church at Thessalonica. Take a moment to look back at the following verses in 1 Thessalonians: 1:10, 2:12, 2:19, and 3:13. Paul believed that the "rapture" was imminent—nothing had to happen before Jesus called His people to Himself; and, Paul believed that it could even happen in his lifetime.

Describe the order of events in verses 15-17. What parts of this are new to you? Does this help you understand the "coming of the Lord" better? What questions do you still have?

Remember Paul's purposes for this passage stated in verses 13 and 18. How does having the view of death described above change the way you are able to live now?

If you were to die today, what would happen to you? Why? In Christ, we can have certainty if we believe in Him. If you are unsure, who can you talk to about this? Who can you share this message of hope with?

How has this passage helped you understand Jesus' future plans for believers more clearly?

#### **SERVE: NWA**

## **Operation Christmas Child**

Operation Christmas Child demonstrates God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and shares the Good News of Jesus Christ. Pick up OCC Shoeboxes on Sunday mornings, November 1, 8, and 15 in the Worship Center Foyer and return on Sundays, November 15 and 22. Shoeboxes will also be available to be picked up/dropped off at the entrance of the Training Center Monday-Thursday, November 2-19, 8:30am-4:30pm. Questions? Contact Megan Mattler at memattler@fellowshipnwa.org.

Connect DAILY clarity2020.org	
Sunday	1Thessalonians 4:13-18
Monday	1 Peter 3:1-22; Psalm 139:14-24; Proverbs 30:5-7
Tuesday	1 Peter 4:1-19; Psalm 140:1-5; Proverbs 30:8-10
Wednesday	1 Peter 5:1-14; Psalm 140:6-13; Proverbs 30:11-13
Thursday	2 Peter 1:1-21; Psalm 141; Proverbs 30:14-16
Friday	2 Peter 2:1-22; Psalm 142; Proverbs 30:17-19
Saturday	2 Peter 3:1-18; Psalm 143; Proverbs 30:20-22

# QUESTIONS? connect with community

communityministries@fellowshipnwa.org fellowshiprogers.org/adults fellowshiprogers.org/services