

Keep Awake: A Study of 1 Thessalonians

9 Marks of the Church that is Awake | Trent Thompson

Who is the church that is awake (ready for Christ's return)?

1. It is a church that wants a moment-by-moment connection with God through Jesus. (1)
2. It is a church that overflows with grace and peace for each other. (1)
3. It is a church full of faith, love, and hope. (3)
4. It is a church that works hard to advance the gospel. (3)
5. It is a church that rests in God's love. (4)
6. It is a church that recognizes and imitates mature faith. (6)
7. It is a church that holds tight to the gospel no matter the cost. (6)
8. It is a church that rings out the gospel in word and by example. (7-8)
9. It turns away from idols. (9)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read I Thessalonians 1:1-10

1. Have you ever thought about living your life with Christ's return in view as "keeping awake"? What does this language imply about what it means to live this way?
2. Why are we prone to lose focus on Christ's return?
3. What stands out to you most in Paul's encouragement to the Thessalonians in these verses? Why?
4. Do any of the 9 marks of a church that is awake from the sermon seem confusing or raise questions for you? Which do you think is most difficult to follow and why?
5. How do you think our church measures up to these 9 marks? Why?
6. What can you do this week to express one of these 9 marks and help our church "keep awake"?

Memory Verse: **1 Thessalonians 1:2 - 3**

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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