

Keep Awake: A Study of 1 Thessalonians
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 | Trent Thompson
The Comfort of the Return of Christ

8 observations about grief, comfort, hope, and Christ's return.

1. The truth is crucial to comfort. (13, 18)
2. Grief and hope are not mutually exclusive. (13)
3. Those who have died in Christ are with God. (13,14)
4. The return of Christ is not a new or trendy source of hope. (15)
5. Those who have died in Christ will be honored when He returns. (15,16)
6. The death they experienced will undone. (16)
7. We will be united with the Lord and reunited with them. (17)
8. Nothing will be able to change this. (17)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read I Thessalonians 4:13-18. What questions do you have about Christ's return? Does this passage answer any of those questions? If not, are there other passages in Scripture your group can think of that do?
2. Have you experienced any hard losses in the last couple of years? Before that? How have you found yourself navigating the grief of these losses?
3. Does anything from this passage, or from the sermon points drawn from it, help you see the comfort we have in the return of Christ in a new way?
4. How can we encourage one another with the words of this passage?
5. Take some time as a group to share with one another the different ways you have needed to grieve this last two years, just listening to one another. Then take time to pray together inviting God's Spirit to comfort each of you according to your need.

Memory verse: **I Thessalonians 4:13**

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

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