

Uncertain Times and Seasons: 1 Thess 5

1. When was the last time you felt like your life was kind of spinning out of control? What was happening and what did you do to try to fix it?
 - a. How did that situation resolve?
 - b. What did you learn about God and yourself from that experience?
2. Paul says that in the last days, the slogan will be “peace and security” and then destruction will suddenly come. Here Paul is likely referring to a mantra of the Roman Empire, i.e., political propaganda rooted in a confidence in an earthly, political savior. What does it look like to be a responsible and engaged citizen, but not buy into political propaganda and put our hope in earthly messiahs?
3. Instead, we are being taught that we need to put our confidence and security in Christ.
 - a. In what ways has God taught you to do that?
 - b. Where and in what ways do you still need to do that better?
4. In vv. 12-22 Paul lays out a list of commands that provide some clarity on how we should live as Children of the light who are awake and watchful, knowing that the day of the Lord is coming.
 - a. Which of these exhortations stick out to you the most? Why?
 - b. Which of these does God have you working on right now?
5. Verses 19-21 address the concept of prophecies. Pastor Mike explained that what is in view here is basically when God gives you something specific to say to someone, you should share it and they should listen, testing it against Scripture. It may be that God is speaking in that situation.
 - a. Do you feel comfortable or uncomfortable with this? Why do you think that is?
 - b. Has God every used someone to speak to you like this? If so, what was it and how did you know whether God was really speaking through them or not?
6. If you are children of light, who are awake and controlled by the Spirit, what does living like the Kingdom has come look like for you today? This week? And in this new season at our church?