

Ready for His Return

When we think about the gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – Mark isn't usually the first place we go. Yet Mark, listening to the eyewitness accounts of Peter, wrote a fast-paced gospel sharing the miraculous things Jesus did, including His death and Resurrection, to convince his Roman readers that Jesus is the Son of God. Let's not overlook what we can learn about our Savior in the overlooked gospel.



INTRODUCTION

This week we are reminded to be “ready” in season and out of season. Keeping our minds filled with the promises of God should impact the way we live today, as we anticipate His coming return.

STARTER QUESTION

When you think about Jesus' return, what comes to your mind? (Refer to: Matthew 24:3, Hebrews 9:28, Ephesians 2:12, and 2 Thessalonians 1:7)

INTO THE WORD

Why doesn't God want us to know the time of Jesus' return? (Refer to: Colossians 4:3, 1 Timothy 4:10, Colossians 3:1, Matthew 28.19, John 17:18, and John 3:17)

What does it mean when the Bible says, “God never slumbers?” (Refer to: 2 Chronicles 16:9, Zechariah 6:5, and Amos 4:13)

Mark 13:26 says when Jesus returns, “...they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.” Why is this in contrast to His first coming so important to believers?” (Refer to: Roman 6:9, Revelation 20:6, and Psalms 144:2)

APPLICATION

In what ways can we discern and overcome deception? (Refer to: Romans 12:2, Isaiah 44:18, Colossians 2:8, Psalms 35:23, Psalms 44:23, Mark 13:33, and Matthew 24:42)

What are some practical ways we can stay “ready”? (Refer to: 1 Corinthians 3:2, 1 Corinthians 14:8, Proverbs 21:31, Matthew 25:8, Romans 8:6, and Colossians 3:2)

How do we share the Gospel to our family, friends, and neighbors in today's cynical and divisive world? (Refer to: 1 John 7-12, Matthew 13:4, Luke 8:39, John 4:28, and John 9:8)

PRAYER

Pray for our personal urgency to be ready when God calls upon us to act in His will, and that we will not be deceived by Satan who is at work overtime in today's world. Pray also for the unity of the Body of Christ and to be responsive in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.