

End of Days – Like a Thief in the Night

Weekend Discussion Questions

September 13-14, 2014

Community:

1. Are you generally a patient person or an impatient person? Give some examples.
2. What are some specific scenarios in which you switch attitudes? (i.e. you're normally pretty patient, but in certain environments you become really impatient.)

Core:

1. Take a few minutes to recap what we talked about last week.
2. When people in the Bible talk or write about the Second Coming of Jesus, they're usually talking to people who are going through seemingly hopeless scenarios and are on the verge of giving up...what are some times in your life where you've been on the verge of giving up?
3. Did Jesus bring you hope in any of those situations? How?
4. Jesus talks about when He will come again in Matthew 24. Read verse 13. Does this mean that salvation is conditional on our endurance? Why or why not?
5. In reference to what Jesus says in Matthew 24:13 and 7:21, Jim said, "The one who is *really saved* will endure because Jesus is in him or her and will give them the ability to endure." How is endurance a marker that a person is really saved?
6. Jesus expands further on this in Matthew 25:31-46. Read that section of Scripture—what phrases stick out to you from that section? Why?
7. Jesus talks about how He will be the ultimate judge of people. How can that be a frightening yet encouraging thought at the same time?
8. Jesus talks again about His Second Coming in Matthew 24:36-46. What things do we learn about the second coming from this section of scripture?
9. All throughout the Bible when people write about Jesus' Second Coming, they seem to be anxiously awaiting that moment and hoping it comes as soon as possible...except in 2 Peter 3:9. What's the reason Peter gives for wanting Jesus to return later?

Challenge:

1. Who in your life are you hoping comes to put their hope and trust in Jesus before He comes back?
2. Jim said, "The Second Coming of Jesus is **imminent**" and "The Second Coming of Jesus should cause a sense of **urgency**." How do these phrases apply to your life right now?
3. Take some time to pray for the people you mentioned in question 1.