

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of June 30-July 6, 2024
"FOUR VIEWS OF THE RAPTURE"

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Are you the kind of person who "argues" his point? Or you just let someone alone with his views even if you disagree with that person?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the four views of the rapture. What questions do you have about these views? Which one captures your attention? What are the practical implications of these different views especially when it comes to the persecution of Christians?
2. Read Revelations 13:1-10. What imagery jumps out at you in this description of the Antichrist, represented here as beast (v.2)? How does it make you feel (fear, awe, confusion)? The verse mentions the dragon, which represents Satan, giving the beast power and authority. As the beast is given authority over a vast array of people groups, how does this depict the extent of his influence? The verse mentions the beast's power to war against the saints. What do you think he will do?
3. The message emphasizes the importance of Christian love and respect, even amidst differing beliefs about the rapture. How can we better practice these principles in our own lives? What steps can we take to be more spiritually prepared for whatever the future holds?
4. It is important to be prepared regardless of the timing of the rapture. What does spiritual preparedness look like to you, irregardless of your view of the rapture? Some Christians may be worried about the events described in the Book of Revelation. How can we encourage one another with faith and hope, even amidst challenges? How do we apply 1 Thessalonians 3:18?

NEXT STEPS

- I will focus on growing in Christ. This is the foundation, regardless of the timing of the rapture.
- I will not be negligent or sidestep the study of end times prophecy.
- I will treat others with respect, even if they hold different views on the rapture and focus on common ground - the love of Christ.
- I will focus on sharing the hope of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for readiness in these last days, for a balanced perspective and a respectful heart in discussing with others about the rapture.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

July 1 Daniel 1
July 2 Daniel 3
July 3 Daniel 4
July 4 Daniel 5
July 5 Daniel 6
July 6 Psalms 14:1-7
July 7 Psalms 131:1-3