

**Dig Deeper @Home – “Living in Light of Christ’s Return”
Complement to lesson on 5/10/26 – “God Himself”**

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. Have you ever had anything stolen by a thief? What? When?
2. If you were put in charge of a skit about Jesus’ return, how would you portray it?

MEMORIZE – 1st Thessalonians 5: 9-11

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

READ – Read 1 Thessalonians 5

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What in these verses is interesting? What is confusing?
 - d. What are the verses revealing about God? What are the verses saying about people?
 - e. In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. Paul speaks of “the times and the seasons” and “the day of the Lord.”
 - a. What are these phrases referring to?
(Read Amos 5:18-20, Isaiah 13:6-13, Joel 2:28-32, 2 Peter 3)
 - b. What does 1 Thessalonians 5 compare the day of the Lord to? What does this teach us?
 - c. What do Jesus’ words about the day of Lord tell us? (Mark 13:32-37, Acts 1:6-11)
3. What does it mean to be “children of the light”? What did Jesus say about this?
(Hint: v 4-10, John 12:32-46)

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – “Glows and Grows”

A major theme in 1 Thessalonians is our sanctification: the process of becoming holy and blameless before the Lord. This is the will of God for us. (4:3) We are called to this! But God is faithful and will produce in us the holiness He requires. (5:24) 1 Thessalonians closes with a list of instructions for what it might look like to “live in light of Christ’s return.” (v 12-22) Scan the list again and pray for God’s strength to move in you in your particular areas of weakness. If you are completing this as a group, also practice the encouragement we are called to throughout the book (2:12, 3:2, 4:18, 5:11, 5:14) by encouraging others where you see them excelling.

Appreciate and respect leaders (12–13)	Be at peace among yourselves (13)	Admonish the idle (14)
Encourage the fainthearted (14)	Help the weak (14)	Be patient (14)
Do not repay evil for evil (15)	Do good to everyone (15)	Rejoice always (16)
Pray without ceasing (17)	Give thanks in all circumstances (18)	Do not quench the Spirit (19)
Do not despise prophecies (20)	Test everything, holding fast to the good (21)	Abstain from all evil (22)

SING (or listen to)

Sing to the King - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnFVXYnXWSU>

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hi5gWJjgpvE>

Dell Mac: ALPHA OMEGA - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvQnd-Bx7s8>

It May Be At Morn – Mennonite Hymnal #570

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us, for this week.

Sending prayer based on the message:

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it!