

Sunday, March 21 2021 - "Remarkable - Week 10: Get Ready" - Stacey Lemanski M.D.

Key Passages: Mark 13, 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12, 1 Corinthians 3:13-15, 1 Peter 4:12-14

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Mark 13: Jesus is giving a warning (he warns with urgency 6 times)
- He's referencing a few events
 - The fall of the temple and the end of temple-centric worship style and structure (as the disciples knew it)
 - The end of the world and of time as we know it
- Context: Jesus going to the cross → resurrection → ascending to Heaven
 - He was not satisfying the expectations of the disciples or the Jewish people
 - He talks about their beloved temple being completely destroyed (hardships and trials)
 - "A time of shaking" (we are in a time of shaking now)...but Jesus has words of warning and of hope for us
- Warning #1 (Mark 13:5-6): **Watch out that you are not deceived**
 - False prophets claiming to be God (only the real thing gets counterfeited)
 - When Christ returns we will all know about it (He won't return as a lamb to be slain but as a roaring lion)
- 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12
 - Refuse to love the truth and delight in wickedness
 - We are called to LOVE the truth and to HATE wickedness (calling evil good and good evil = opens door for deception)
- Warning #2 (Mark 13:10-11): **Be on guard against fear**
 - Fear is running rampant (it trades peace and joy for torment)
 - Faith is the antidote of fear (as faith increases fear decreases)
 - "Faith is developmental" - Dr. Rob Reimer
 - We grow to deeper levels of faith
 - As we cooperate with God in our lives
- Warning #3 (Mark 13:9, 13): **Expect persecution and trial (1 Peter 4:12-14)**
- Warning #4 (Mark 13: 34, 37): **Don't be found sleeping**
 - The end before Jesus returns
 - Warnings are always motivated by love (to prepare us)
 - It is his kindness that wants us to avoid eternal consequences
- For those who do not yet know Christ
 - God is warning you of the eternal consequences if you do not know Him
 - Today is the day of salvation (confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that he died for our sins)
- This who are children of God but you are still on the throne of your own life
 - You believe in Jesus but you still call all the shots for your life
 - 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 (the judgement seat of Christ: not to determine salvation, rather for believers to determine the receipt of reward or loss of reward based on how they have stewarded their life)
 - Let God lead your life
 - He has created us all for a specific purpose
 - Throw off worldly cares/pleasures/distractions that cause us to fail asleep
- Those who have fully surrendered to the lordship of Jesus and tho who want to surrender His lordship today
 - Not about sinless perfection
 - About a heart attitude and a posture of how we live our lives
 - You are good and worthy of all of my trust...my life belongs to you
 - A word of comfort and hope: **"You are eternally safe and secure under the rule and reign of God"** - Stacey Lemanski M.D.
- Get ready because your King is coming back to get you

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Which of the four warnings resonates with you the most? Why?
2. How is God asking you to practically pay attention to the warnings that Jesus gives about the end of time?
3. How have you seen fear rob you of joy and peace? How has God moved to grow your faith and lessen your fear?
4. How do you respond to the statement, "You are eternally safe and secure under the rule and reign of God"?
5. How is God prompting you to "get ready"? What is a next step for you based on what this passage/sermon says?
6. What emotions and feelings come up when you think about the return of Jesus?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Jeremiah 31:31-34 Tues: Psalm 119:9-16 Wed: Hebrews 5:5-10 Thurs: John 12:20-33 Fri: Mark 11:1-11

Songs from the weekend: [Mountaintops - *The Belonging Co.*] - [King of My Heart - *John Mark McMillan*] - [Living Hope - *Phil Wickham*] - [Worthy of It All - *Bethel Music*]