

First Thessalonians Study
Questions for First Thessalonians 5:1-11

1. When will the Lord return? How will the Lord Return? What two descriptions does Paul use in 5:1-3 to describe the day of the Lord? Why would he use these metaphors? What is his intent to convey?

2. To whom is Paul speaking when he says "you are not in darkness" (v4)? Read 1 Thes 1:10; 2:16 and 5:9. What is the significance of the Parousia (Christ's return)? How has this letter's emphasis on Christ's return effected your thinking this week?

3. In verse 6 Paul instructs believers how they are to live in light of Christ's return. What does it mean to for us "not to sleep as others do" but to be "awake and sober"? (cf. Isaiah 59:15b-20 and Ephesians 6:10-20)? How does this command impact your thinking as you look out at the landscape of our society and the world today?

4. In verses 9-10, it seems Paul is seeking to reassure the believers of what he has already written in 4:13-18. Again, what is the foundation for this reassurance and hope? Work out in your own words what Paul had in mind when he said, "We might live with him."

5. What has God destined His people to? How did He do it? What is the confidence of our hope and what are we to do in light of that hope?