

Five Stones Church

Sermon Study

Keep Scripture Relevant with Study Guides



Be Intentional

Before you start your study time, make sure you create an environment for Holy Spirit revelation.

Study Group

You can discuss difficult questions or topics with your small group or study partners.



Note-Taking

Take notes in an organized style to help you understand the subject more clearly. Take notes on Sunday

Become Equipped

Challenge yourself to memorize Scripture and key points from Sunday's sermon



Opening Prayer:

Invite God's presence into this study. Pray for understanding, peace, and clarity as we explore these profound promises and teachings about the End Times.

Anchor Scripture:

'So when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not" (let the reader understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.'

(Mark 13:14, NKJV)

Sermon Study Guide - Mark 13:14-19 - The Great Tribulation

Understanding the One Thing

Main Point : If you stay ready, you won't have to get ready.

Reflection :

Jesus doesn't share these details to frighten us but to prepare us. The end times will test faith, but those who trust in God and live ready will endure.

Questions :

1. What does "stay ready" mean in your spiritual walk today?
2. How does knowing about the end times motivate you to prepare?

Action Item :

This week, reflect on areas in your life where you might be "spiritually unprepared." Spend time in prayer asking God to strengthen those areas.

Biblical Prophecy and Dual Fulfillment

Main Point :

Prophecy often serves both immediate and future purposes.

Reflection:

God's Word isn't confined to one time or event. It's alive and relevant, revealing His power to straighten the "crooked places" in our lives.

Questions :

1. Have you seen a "crooked place" in your life that God has made straight?
2. How does dual fulfillment in prophecy help you trust God's sovereignty?

Action Item :

Journal about a time when God "smoothed" a rough area in your life. How did that experience build your faith?

Clear Signs to Watch For

Main Point:

Jesus outlined specific signs pointing to the end times, including false messiahs, wars, natural disasters, and more intense persecution.

Scripture Focus :

– 'But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter.' – (Mark 13:17-18, NKJV)

Reflection :

The signs Jesus described—like earthquakes, wars, and famine—are increasing in intensity, much like birth pangs. These are warnings for believers to stay alert and ready.

Questions :

1. How do you see the signs described in Mark 13 reflected in the world today?
2. What does “urgency” look like in your relationship with God?

Action Item :

Spend time each day this week in focused prayer, asking God to prepare your heart for the challenges ahead.

The Abomination of Desolation

Main Point:

This event signals the beginning of the Tribulation and represents idolatry and defilement.

Scripture Focus:

_'Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.' _ (Daniel 9:27, NKJV)

Reflection :

The Antichrist will break a covenant, stop worship in the Temple, and declare himself God. This event points to humanity's rebellion against God.

Questions :

1. How does understanding this prophecy shape your view of God's sovereignty?
2. What steps can you take to guard your heart against idolatry?

Action Item :

Identify any "idols" (things that compete with God's place in your life). Confess these to God and ask for His help to make Him your sole focus.

Hope in the Midst of Tribulation

Main Point:

Even in the darkest times, we find hope and strength in Christ.

Scripture Focus:

'And pray that your flight may not be in winter.' _ (Mark 13:18, NKJV)

Reflection:

Jesus's warning reminds us to depend on God for guidance and strength. Tribulation emphasizes the need to anchor ourselves in Christ.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to anchor yourself in Christ during trials?
2. How can your faith community support you in times of trouble?

Action Item:

Commit to memorizing one Bible verse about hope, such as Romans 8:38-39, and meditate on it daily.

The Severity of the Tribulation

Main Point:

The Tribulation will surpass all previous suffering in its global, cosmic, and spiritual impact.

Reflection:

Natural disasters, wars, and pandemics combined cannot compare to the scale of the Tribulation. It will be a time of God's judgment and Satan's increased activity.

Questions:

1. How does understanding the scope of the Tribulation deepen your trust in God's plan?
2. In what ways can you share the hope of Christ with others as these events unfold?

Action Item:

Write down three ways you can share Christ with someone this week. Take action on at least one of them.

Anchoring in Hope

Main Point:

Our hope is in Christ, who strengthens and sustains us through every trial.

Reflection:

The Tribulation emphasizes the need for a firm foundation in Christ. By renewing our minds with His Word, cultivating a powerful prayer life, and staying connected to other believers, we prepare for what's to come.

Questions:

1. How can you strengthen your foundation in Christ this week?
2. Who in your life needs to hear about the hope found in Jesus?

Action Items:

- Commit to reading a chapter of the Bible daily this week.
- Reach out to someone who is struggling and share a word of encouragement or prayer.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, help me to stand firm in Your truth and be alert to any deception that may lead me away from You. Strengthen my foundation in Your Word, and let my life be a testament to Your holiness. In Jesus' name, amen.

Final Action Step:

Jesus warned of the Tribulation not to scare us but to prepare us. As we deepen our relationship with Him and stay grounded in His Word, we can face any challenge with confidence and hope. Remember: the ultimate victory is already won through Christ. Stay ready, stay faithful, and keep your eyes on Him.

