



Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Mark 13 (Part 2)

Introduction: Jesus speaks to his disciples about the certainty of things to come both in their generation and throughout church history. He prophecies that the Temple would be destroyed within their lifetime and that the age of the church will be marked by tribulation, deception, and a worldwide witness to Jesus. Despite the perplexing nature of Jesus' teaching, this passage is not meant to fuel speculation but to bring comfort and equip us to live faithfully as engaged exiles in our generation.

Into the Word

What types of persecution does Jesus say his disciples should be prepared for? Are there any types of persecution that surprise you? How is this aspect of Jesus' teaching meant to help his disciples?

Consider: 2 Timothy 3:12

What types of deception does Jesus say his disciples should be prepared for? Is it important that "false Christs" and "false projects" are plural? How is this aspect of Jesus' teaching meant to help his disciples?

Consider: 1 John 2:18-19, Galatians 1:8-9

Where do you see hope or longing in this passage? Where does Jesus root the disciples hope?

Consider: Hebrews 11:16

What aspects of life needed to change in order to for the disciples to live faithfully?

Into the Heart

Complete this sentence: "What I want more than anything right now is..." How do our longings reveal what "gospel" we've embrace?

What are the consequences of a faith that focuses exclusively on the present and not on the future?

Consider: Romans 8:18-25

Into the World

Read 1 Peter 4:12-16 What is persecution? What isn't persecution? Why does Peter emphasize a proper understanding of persecution?

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Describe discipleship and Christian education based on this passage. What would our community/families look like if we embraced this?