

Hope Church

Sunday Sermon 9/28/25

To watch sermon, click here: [📺 Sunday Morning Worship 2025-09-28](#)

Life Group Discussion Guide: The Promise of Christ's Return

Text: Acts 1:6–11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Session Goals

- **Main Idea:** Jesus Christ is coming again. His return is the certain destination of history, and believers are called to live ready, encouraged, and full of hope.
 - **Head Change:** Understand that the Second Coming of Christ is imminent, visible, and certain—though its timing is unknown.
 - **Heart Change:** Feel encouraged and excited, not fearful, about the hope of Christ's return and the eternity He has promised.
 - **Life Change:** Live with readiness—praying earnestly, loving deeply, and pointing others to Christ while we wait.
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Opening Discussion

- What kind of traveler are you—the “open atlas” type who loves the details, or the “GPS” type who just wants the destination?
 - How might those personalities also show up when we think about the End Times?
 - Share one word that describes how you feel when you think about Jesus returning.
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Scripture Reading

Read aloud:

- Acts 1:6–11
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
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Discussion Questions

1. **The Promise:** In Acts 1:11, the angels say Jesus will return “in the same way” the disciples saw Him go. What does that tell us about His return?
2. **The Hope:** Paul tells believers to “encourage each other with these words” (1 Thess. 4:18). How does the reality of Christ's return bring comfort in times of difficulty?
3. **The Unknown:** Why do you think God keeps the exact timing of Christ's return hidden (Matt. 24:36)? How does that shape the way we live?

4. **The Urgency:** What would change in your daily life if you truly lived as if Christ could return at any moment?
 5. **The Mission:** Acts 1:8 connects the promise of Christ's return with the command to witness. How does keeping eternity in view motivate evangelism and service?
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Additional Reading & Reflection

- Matthew 24:36–44 – Jesus' teaching on being ready.
- John 14:1–3 – His promise to prepare a place for us.
- 2 Peter 3:8–14 – The call to holy living while we wait.

Reflection Question: Which do you need more right now—encouragement, urgency, or readiness? Why?

Application & Personal Commitment

- **Pray** daily for readiness and for loved ones who don't yet know Christ.
 - **Love deeply** (1 Pet. 4:7–8)—look for one practical way this week to show Christlike love.
 - **Stay alert**—write down one habit or distraction that dulls your spiritual watchfulness and commit to change it.
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Last Word

The story of history has a guaranteed ending: Jesus Christ is coming back. The “when” is hidden, but the “what” is sure. Our call is not to speculate, but to **be ready, be encouraged, and be faithful.**