

Sunday, October 29, 2023

# Welcome to congregational worship at Buffalo City Church

We're so glad you've joined us this morning! We hope you feel at home here, but more than that, we desire for you to know the joy and peace that come to us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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## SERMON OUTLINE

### Grieving with Hope

Text: **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**; cf. *Deut. 29:29; Matt. 25:1-13; Mark 13:32; John 6:39-40, 11:33; Revelation 21:3-5*

#### I. **Intro**

- What's going on in the world?
- Read the Bible with a keen eye, submitted to the Holy Spirit.

#### II. **The importance of sound doctrine**

- Paul does not want the Thessalonians to be uninformed.
- Sound doctrine is statements about belief that are in good condition.
- Our doctrine requires the solid foundation of God's Word.

#### III. **The reality of grief**

- The Thessalonians were concerned about the future.
- Grief is natural when loved ones depart from this life.

#### IV. **The foundation of the Christian's hope**

- The foundation of our hope is the resurrection of Jesus.
- Christ was raised and so we can be confident that our Christian brothers and sisters will be raised as well.

#### V. **The Christian's hope, realized**

- Upon Jesus' second coming the dead in Christ will be raised and will go into the air with those who are still alive to meet the Lord.
- The parable of the ten virgins — "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."

#### VI. **The purpose of doctrinal clarity**

- Some wrongly say "doctrine divides."
- Paul writes that doctrine is meant to encourage.

#### VII. **Conclusion**

- Seek doctrinal clarity.
- Apply that doctrinal clarity in order to be a comfort to those who mourn.

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

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### Why do we read from a passage of Scripture during corporate worship?

The Holy Scripture is the only communication God has given us to rule and direct our lives as to how we may worship and serve Him.<sup>1</sup> Everything we do in life and worship should be traced back to the standard of God's Word.<sup>2</sup> Because the Word is so central to the entirety of our lives, we seek to grow in our familiarity with it and adherence to it.<sup>3</sup> One way we do this is by obeying the command to publicly read the Scripture.<sup>4</sup>

## COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

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### Sermon Summary

The Thessalonians were concerned. Will we see family and friends who are believers again after they die? Paul tells them on the day that Jesus returns, those who have died will be raised and then those who are alive will ascend to meet Jesus in the air. Be encouraged that you and your brothers and sisters will be together with Christ in eternity.

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### CG Discussion Questions

Are there points of Christian doctrine that you are unclear on? How should you go about seeking clarity based on Ephesians 4:11-16?

Are you experiencing or have you recently experienced grief? How does this passage offer encouragement?

Why is the resurrection of Jesus the foundation of the Christian's hope? What insufficient sources are you tempted to go to for hope?

Read Matthew 25:1-13 and discuss its relationship with 1 Thess. 4:13-18.

Does the discussion of final things scare you or encourage you? How does this passage address and treat fear?

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<sup>1</sup> Isaiah 8:20; Luke 16:29-31

<sup>2</sup> Galatians 1:8-9; 2 Timothy 3:15-17

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 119:11

<sup>4</sup> 1 Timothy 4:13

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### October Giving

Week	Weekly Need	Last Week's Giving	Month to Date Need	Month to Date Giving	MTD Giving vs Need
Week 1	\$4,576.92	\$4,091.86	\$4,576.92	\$4,091.86	<b>-\$485.06</b>
Week 2	\$4,576.92	\$3,715.50	\$9,153.84	\$7,807.36	<b>-\$1,346.48</b>
Week 3	\$4,576.92	\$2,396.75	\$13,730.76	\$10,204.11	<b>-\$3,526.65</b>
Week 4	\$4,576.92	\$5,310.21	\$18,307.68	\$15,514.32	<b>-\$2,793.36</b>
Week 5	\$4,576.92		\$22,884.60		

Year to Date Need	Year to Date Giving	YTD Giving vs Need
\$192,230.64	\$179,486.11	<b>-\$12,744.53</b>



### COMMUNITY GROUPS

At Buffalo City Church we see community as a non-negotiable element of the Christian life and so we regularly meet together in Community Groups. CGs meet Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at various times in the evening.

Questions about a CG? Want to get in touch with a CG leader? Send us an email at [buffalocitychurch@gmail.com](mailto:buffalocitychurch@gmail.com).

### WEEKLY UPDATES

Want to know more about what's going on at BCC? Snap the QR code below to sign up for our Weekly Email Updates.



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