

The Gospel of Mark

Group Guide: Week 23, Mark 13:1-37

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 13 is unique from the surrounding chapters in that it does not describe Jesus' final week on earth. Instead Jesus stops and teaches on being prepared for what happens after His ascension. This includes destruction of the temple and Jerusalem (occurred in 70 A.D.) as well as Jesus' return, which has not happened yet. Therefore, this message is very important and pertains to disciples in every generation. As we study this passage, may we grow in loving, worshiping and serving our Savior.

PRAYER

READ

Ask one or two group members to read Mark 13:1-37.

SUMMARIZE

Ask two group members who didn't summarize last week to summarize the passage this week.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *If someone wants to tell you something and then asks you if you want the good news or bad news first, what do you generally answer and why? How did Jesus present news in this chapter?*

2. In Mark 13:1-2 The temple took many years to build. It was an architectural marvel and was the center of worship. It was beautiful containing gold plated walls. One of the disciples engages Jesus about the great size and magnificent buildings in the temple. *What was Jesus reply and how was His answer fulfilled around A.D. 70?*

N.T. FURTHER READING

Matt. 24:1-25:46; Luke 21:5-36

O.T. FURTHER READING

Daniel 7:13-14

FURTHER STUDY

As you read write out any words in this passage that would be helpful for you to look up in a dictionary.

3. In Mark 13:3-13 Disciples ask when and what will be the sign of the destruction. Jesus warns the disciples not to be deceived. *What stands out to you in this passage? In what ways does His answer also pertain to us? Is there any part of this passage that does not pertain to the world today?*

4. Discuss verses 14-23 . “Abomination of desolation” is specific as it refers to the destruction of and placing an abominable idol in the temple by God’s enemies. When God’s people see this type of abomination they are to flee, be on guard and not be deceived. However, other powerful deceptions occur today. *How can we specifically be on guard for a powerful deception (see vs. 22-23)? What deceptions do we need to flee? Where are many replacing the worship of the Lord by worshiping a false idol?*

5. We are to be prepared and on guard, but we do not know when Christ is coming (vs.32-37). *What is the difference in being on guard and watching vs. predicting the date and waiting for the world to end? What ways can we help one another be on guard and watching for the return of the Lord?*

NOTES

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:

Mark: 13: 32-33

RESPONSE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Personal: How has this passage convicted you and how may the group pray for you?

Church: How can you and your group identify, encourage and pray for those that are being persecuted? For example, there may be some international students that will be persecuted as they claim Christ and go back home to their families.

World: Identify a country where Christians are are being persecuted/martyred. Understand what is going on in their country and pray for them.

LENT READING: Matthew 6:1-15

PRAY TOGETHER