

Small Group Discussion Guide

"Mark 13 -- The Olivet Discourse"
Week of May 6, 2018

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer. How's the 40 Days of Prayer going? What day/verse was especially meaningful this past week? How can we as a church improve at corporate prayer?

- I. For the next few weeks, we are going to slow down and focus on one chapter of Mark. Turn to Mark 13. This chapter is called "The Olivet Discourse". Read <u>Mark 13:1-4</u>. Where is the Mount of Olives? What prediction does Jesus make in verses 1-2? When was the destruction of the temple fulfilled?
- II. Now go back and read again <u>Mark 12:1-11</u>. What does this parable cover? How does this relate to the destruction of the temple from <u>Mark 13:2</u>? Read <u>Luke 19:41-44</u>. According to Jesus, why would Jerusalem be seiged and overrun by the Romans? Note <u>Luke 21:20-24</u>.
- III. Return to Mark 13. Read <u>Mark 13:4</u> and compare it with <u>Matthew</u> <u>24:3.</u> What specifically do the disciples ask Jesus? Two questions -- what are they? Are they one and the same, or do they point to two (or three) different events? If so, what would they be?
- IV. The span of time between the fall of Jerusalem and the second coming is known as "the Times of the Gentiles". Who are the Gentiles? What might this "time" be? Read <u>Luke 21:24.</u> When will the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled? Note <u>Luke 21:7-11</u>, <u>Matthew 24:10-14</u>.
- V. Jesus also predicts how the disciples themselves will be treated even before Jerusalem falls. Note <u>Matthew 24:9</u>, <u>Luke 21:12-19</u>. In conclusion, Jesus predicts that Jerusalem will be sacked and a time span will occur when non-Jews will dominate the scene. We are presently in that time.

There's much to learn from Jesus' "Olivet Discourse". We'll pick up with more next time.



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