

1 Youth Ministry Grades 7-12

May 11, 2025 When will it happen?

Contact Us

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> Text Prayer Requests Anytime 24/7





Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are always collecting **"Personal Care Items"** for teens in foster care throughout the year. Items for both male and female teens See the sidebar for our new **TEXT Prayer Request Line!** Simply <u>text "I need prayer" to 844-533-3553</u> anytime, and our team of Prayer Warriors will be praying for you.

> Coming May 16th! <u>THIS FRIDAY!!!</u> Spring Fling Youth Event Food, Fun, and Friends Invite Your Friends 6pm to 10pm

> > Sunday



When will it happen?

Last Sunday, we asked what would happen if instead of having quizzes and tests all year in school you just had one test at the end of the year that was worth 100% of your entire grade.

We all agreed that we'd probably not do anything all year and then kill ourselves the day before studying all stressed and worried that we were going to fail it.

But, what if that same test could instead happen at any time on any day? We said that suddenly studying like crazy the night before wouldn't work anymore. Talk about being totally stressed! are being collected in the bin located on tables in the hall. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

This Week's Bible Verses

Mark 13:1-37

Verses 1-6

13 As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!" ² "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." ³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?" ⁵ Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁶ Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many.

Verses 32-37

³² "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. We then said, what if that test was actually something called "**Judgement Day**". The day God will judge all the people of the world to be separated in order to spend eternity in Heaven or in Hell. Do you think you would spend your life trying to figure out when that day would be so that you could be ready for when it happens?

We said that's exactly what religious leaders, scientists, activists, and just plain crazy people have been doing since shortly after Jesus left the Earth. Literally thousands of people over hundreds of centuries have been predicting the day the world as we know it will end in one way or another.

We agreed that the fact that we're all still here proves that absolutely none of them were correct. All their predictions did was cause wide spread fear and stress for those who believed them. Even not knowing when it will happen seems to cause us fear and stress.

Even Jesus' Disciples wanted to know when.

We looked in Mark 13 where Jesus was telling His Disciples about the "end times" and what would happen. His Disciples asked "<u>when will these things</u> <u>happen?</u>" but Jesus instead answered them by saying "watch out that no one deceives you".

We noticed that Jesus didn't say it may happen, He said that many WILL come in His name and that many WILL be deceived. We noted by the very long list of predictions we reviewed that Jesus wasn't kidding.

Jesus goes on telling them all about the things that will happen in the end times and then, in **verse 32**, He finally gets around to telling us **WHEN** it will happen.

Unfortunately, His answer is a very clear, "no one knows". He says that only the Father knows. Just to be perfectly clear, He repeats it again in **verse 33** saying, "you do not know". He then finishes up in **verses 34-37** with a parable explaining that we are to keep watch and be prepared for whenever it does happen.

We decided that now it makes perfect sense why all those predictions were wrong. We're just not going to know when. So, just like the test we talked about that can happen at any time, we need to be prepared.

We asked what we would do differently if we did know and said that we definitely would want to make sure to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. So, what's stopping us from from doing that right now? ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴ It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

³⁵ "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"

<u>Visit our</u> website here! We then asked if it would even be a good idea to know when it really all would happen. Why wouldn't Jesus just ask the Father and then tell us?

We said that if we did know when, our focus would always be on when the world would end rather than on all the things that God wants us to do in the mean time. We would be full of fear and stress as we approached that day and time.

Going back to the test that is worth 100% of your grade but you have no idea when it will be, the trick is to be prepared always. If you knew all the answers to pass the test 100% then it wouldn't matter when it was. There would be no more worry or stress, only peace.

Similarly, once we are truly saved, we are guaranteed a place in Heaven, with God, for eternity. We said that judgement day is really for non-believers who will be judged on their works. As believers, we have already been judged righteous before God through Jesus Christ and are forgiven by our relationship with Him so whenever the time comes, we will be welcomed into Heaven to spend eternity with God.

Jesus is telling us to stop focusing on WHEN it will happen, it's not important, and instead focus on being prepared for whenever it does and on doing God's work until that day comes. This will bring you peace in your heart instead of fear and worry.



Pre-Service Coffee Q&A Sundays at 9:00am

Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, starting at 9:00am, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general.

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