

# **Signs of the End Times - Stay Focused**

*What's so important about the 'end times'?*

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\*Bible truth: Jesus calls believers to follow Him boldly even when their faith is tested by unsettling events

Just for fun: If you could take 2 things with you to heaven, what would they be?

**READ: Mark 13:3-13: 32-37**

**Don't Be Fooled by Unsettling Events** (reread Mark 13:5-8)

1. What events are listed that tell of the end times?
2. Why do you suppose Jesus warned His disciples about difficult times ahead?
3. How does alarm over world situations and tragedies manifest itself *in your life*?

Why do you think Jesus tells us not to be "alarmed"?

**Depend on the Holy Spirit** (reread 13:9-11)

1. Why do you think God allows His people to experience the embarrassment , pain, and suffering of persecution?

What do you think is the significance of Jesus' statement in verse 10?

Do you think it is possible that believers could hasten the coming of Christ by being more active in preaching the gospel to all nations? Why or why not?

2. What comfort and advocate will aid them (us) to endure their (our) trials? How . . . share an experience.

How could this promise (v. 11) cause "carelessness" in our Christian trials/witness?

**Live in Light of the Lord's Promise** (reread 13:12-13)

1. What comfort and confidence can you draw from this promise?
2. How should believers relate to family members who are openly hostile to them because of their commitment to Christ?

**Stay Alert** (reread 13:35-37)

1. Why do you suppose the Father has kept the time of Christ's return a secret (v.32)?
2. What is the point of "staying alert"... what is Jesus trying to communicate through this example?

**Review/Personal Application:**

- What are some ways that believers can remain alert for the coming of the Lord?

**Care and Prayer:** How can we help one another through prayer?

**LIFE Groups**

*Providing an environment to nurture caring relationships and spiritual growth.*

- L** ♦ Learn..... applying Biblical truth for everyday living
- I** ♦ Invite.....welcoming others to our fellowship
- F** ♦ Fellowship.....nurturing Christ centered caring relationships
- E** ♦ Evangelism..... combining evangelism, teaching and nurturing to impact our world for Christ