

Topic 7 April 2013	Why must we understand End-Times?
<p>Approach in studying this topic</p>	<p>1) <u>Take time to study</u> This is a huge topic and God is giving progressive understanding to His people as we enter into the days ahead. So take time to study what God says about the End-times. Be an eager beaver and search out God's word yourself - adopt the Berean attitude (Acts 17:10-11), be teachable (not be quick to agree or disagree) yet search out the truths for yourselves. Ask questions to clarify and understand better, not in a skeptical manner, so that God will bless our open and teachable hearts!</p> <p>2) <u>Prayer</u> This is not just theory or bible study but Reality! Bathe your study with prayer and birth your understanding of the times through prayer. Ask God to stir your heart, giving rise to a response to Him. Every time God stirs our heart about a truth and we respond, we keep our hearts tender and sensitive to God.</p>
<p>Three Key Questions to Unlock our Understanding of the Times</p>	<p>1) <u>Can we know about the End-Times?</u> 2) <u>Should we know about the End-Times?</u> 3) <u>How do we know we are living in the End-Times and how do we know that we are the last generation before Jesus returns?</u></p> <p>These were the main topics covered in the first session. Take time to go through the notes given out, read the Scriptures and pray. Ask questions! When we learn and know how to answer these three questions, we are on the right footing in the study of this topic and knowing God's heart.</p>

Some questions discussed in the small groups	
<p>Q1) I don't really wish Jesus to come back so soon because my loved ones are not saved yet.</p>	<p>We understand the tension. We have loved ones too and we long for them to be saved and continue to pray for their hearts to be open and willing. Our confidence is in knowing God's heart - He desires all men to know Him and be saved (2Pet. 3:9), having made Himself known through creation and the things He has made (Rom. 1:20).</p> <p>We continue to pray for their eyes to see the light of the gospel (2Cor. 4:4) and also look out for opportunity to share Christ with them. As we enter into the days ahead, there will be unprecedented power and divine revelations (Acts 2:17-21; Jer.31:9; Mat. 17:11; Mal 4:6; John. 14:12), a great harvest of souls (Mat. 24:14; 28:119-10; Rev. 5:9; 7:9; 14:6; 15:4; Dan. 7:14, 27) and divine judgment (Rev. 5:8; 6; 8-9: 15-16).</p> <p>It is the call of God for the Church to long for and hasten the return of Jesus (1 Pet. 3:12). May God quicken our hearts so that we know the times and so share this reality in grace and truth, and turn many hearts to God!</p>
<p>Q2) How do I share the End-Times with my friends? Are there three points to tell people about End-Times?</p>	<p>We constantly remind ourselves and also those whom we share with three ways to understand the times and make sense of it to others:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch 2. Pray 3. Be a Voice <p>The Scriptures exhort us to watch and pray. There are at least ten Scriptures that are related to preparing for the End-Times – Matthew 24:42; 25:13; Mark 13:9, 33, 34, 35, 37; Luke 21:36; 1 Thessalonians 5:6 and Revelation 16:15.</p> <p>To watch is to cultivate faith and understanding that agrees with what the Word and the Spirit say about Jesus' return. We prepare by watching what the Spirit is saying in Scripture, in circumstances, and in our life.</p> <p>We must search out what the Bible says (both OT and NT) about the signs of His coming. There are over 150 chapters in the Bible that focus on the End-Times. With a heart of faith, watch the sign events and trends that are predicted in Scripture progressively unfold. Set your heart to be an "anointed observer" of these things, praying in agreement with what is in God's heart!</p> <p>Be alert to the Spirit's stirring and challenges in your personal life and ministry. Many unique things are happening at a high level at the same time for the first time in history, yet this alone will not move a spiritually dull heart. We are to stay alert in our communion with God such that we are always in a disposition to agree with the Spirit.</p> <p>May God grant us the spirit of the "sons of Issachar" (1 Chronicles 12:32) so that we may have understanding of the times and know what to do!</p>

Some questions discussed in the small groups

Q3) You talked about the Global Prayer Movement prophesied in the bible. What is this about and where can I find the verses related to this movement?

The LORD is raising up a global prayer movement at the end-of-the-age. One of the realities that indicate the beginning of this prayer movement is that there is a rapid increase and desire for worship, intercession and intimate relationship with the LORD like never before. There are more than 40 passages in the Scriptures that talk about the Global Prayer Movement. This is not an exhaustive list -

- Psa. 94:1-23; 98:1-9; 99:1-9; 102:17-20; 110:5; 149:6-9;
- Isa. 24:14-16; 25:9-10; 26:8-9; 27:2-5,13; 30:18-19; 42:10-13; 43:25-26; 51:11-13; 52:8; 56:7; 62:6-7; 63: 15-64:5;
- Joel 2:12-17; Jer. 31:7; 54:1-13;
- Micah 5:3-4;
- Zeph. 2:1-3;
- Zech 8:21-22; 10:1; 12:10; 13:9;
- Amos 9:11;
- Mal. 1-11;
- Matt. 21:13; Mark 11:17; Luke 18:7-8; 19:46;
- Acts 15:15-17;
- Rev. 5:8; 6:7-11; 8:3-5; 9:13; 14:18; 15:1-6; 16:7; 22:17

If you are interested to find out more, do approach us to find out the Resources you can get hold of.