

# Week 6: Awakened to Godliness

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* In your opinion, what makes someone godly or holy?
- \* Think of a character building experience in your life. How did this experience make you a better person?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Pastor Bryan's sermon on hastening Jesus' return challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* How does the Bible describe those looking forward to and speeding Jesus' return? **2 Peter 3:11-12**. What might these characteristics look like in your life today?
- \* What delayed the people of Israel from entering the promised land? **Numbers 13:27-28, 31; Hebrews 3:16-19**
- \* When will Jesus return? **Matthew 24:14**

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* What character defects keep you from being ready for Jesus' return?
- \* How can you cooperate with God this week to speed His coming?

# Week 5: Standing Tall

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* In your opinion, what makes a person courageous?
- \* Do you think of yourself as a courageous person? Why or why not?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Pastor Bryan's sermon on courage in troubling times challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* What reason does Jesus give us to stand tall in troubling times? **Luke 21:28**
- \* How did Jesus describe the events preceding His return? What does this description tell us about these events? **Matthew 24:8**
- \* How might Jesus' instruction to stand tall affect the way you live today?

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* How is your response to the crises in our world today affecting your readiness for Jesus return?
- \* What can you do this week to stand tall as you wait for Jesus' return?

# Week 4: Who Then?

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* On a scale of 1-10, how much of a procrastinator are you? Why is this?
- \* If Jesus returned next Monday evening, what would He find you doing?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Pastor Michael's sermon on waiting for the second coming challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* What does Jesus' parable about the faithful and evil servant teach us about being ready for Jesus' return? **Matthew 24:45-51**
- \* How does the faithful servant behave? What responsibilities has God given you to do while you wait? **Matthew 24:45**
- \* What can you say for sure about the timing of Jesus' return? How does this truth influence the way you live today? **Matthew 24:46, 50**

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* How does someone overcome their habit of procrastination?
- \* What responsibilities has God given you to do while you wait for His return? How can you be faithful in your God-given duties this week?

# Week 3: Tank Up On Oil, Not High Octane Slime

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* Think of a time when something you were waiting for took longer than expected. How did you respond?
- \* When there is a delay of plans, do you tend to get more ready or less ready? Why do you think this is?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Dr. Knight's sermon on being ready for Christ's return challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* What was the one essential difference between the two groups in Jesus' parable? What does this tell us about being ready for Jesus' return? **Matthew 25:1-13**
- \* When do those ready for Jesus' return "tank up on oil?" How is this done? (see **Psalms 119:105**)
- \* How does Jesus teaching regarding the location of His kingdom inform the way we live? **John 18:36**

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* How do we remain ready for Jesus return even though it is taking longer than expected?
- \* How do citizens of heaven relate to politics?
- \* What is God leading you to do this week to "tank up on oil?"

# Week 2: Loving the Truth

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* Does the idea of breaking the rules appeal to you? Why or why not?
- \* Have you ever asked someone a question like, “do you think I look fat in this?” but didn’t want to hear the truth? How come?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Pastor Bryan’s sermon on loving the truth challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* What is the connection between lawlessness and deception? **2 Thessalonians 2:9**
- \* What kept Jesus from being deceived by Satan? **Matthew 4:4, 7, 10**
- \* How were Adam and Eve deceived while knowing the truth about the forbidden tree? **Genesis 3:1-6**

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* How would you describe your relationship with the Truth of Jesus?
- \* What could make your love for the Truth grow this week?

# Week 1: Confidence In Jesus' Coming

Study Guide for Small Groups

*15-20 Minutes*

## Opening Questions:

- \* When you hear the phrase "Jesus is coming soon," what thoughts & feelings come to mind?
- \* How does a believer in Christ's soon return live differently?

*20-25 Minutes*

## Bible Study:

- \* How was Pastor Bryan's sermon on the assurance of Jesus' return challenging, helpful or troubling?
- \* What causes people to doubt the certainty of Jesus' return? **2 Peter 3:3-7**
- \* What makes God's word trustworthy? **Psalms 33:6, 9**
- \* What can we learn from the flood story to help us with our doubts about Jesus' soon return? **Genesis 6:17-18**

*10 Minutes*

## Apply:

- \* How does belief in Jesus' return affect the way you live?
- \* What can you do this week to more fully live out your faith in Jesus' return?