



Key References:

Isaiah 43:2 (ESV)

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Isaiah 32:2 (ESV)

² Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.

1 Thessalonians 5:6 (ESV)

⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

Matthew 24:42–43 (ESV)

⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

Psalms 24:7–9 (ESV)

⁷ Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. ⁸ Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! ⁹ Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

1 – COVID-19

This week we encourage you to spend the majority of time together online checking in with people and discussing how people are doing. Ask your group if anyone has lost their jobs or been impacted in other ways. Ask about who is particularly worried about their health in your group or concerned for family members. Pray through their answers and encourage them.

Ivor shared two scriptures before his message on Sunday; Isaiah 43:2 and Isaiah 32:2. **Read these scriptures, and the neighboring scriptures and discuss how they speak into the current situation.**

Read 1 Peter 5:7-8. **How can we cast our anxieties onto God during this time? What do you think God would say to your biggest concerns right now?**

2 – WAKING UP

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:6. **How do you feel yourself waking up spiritually in the wake of Covid-19?**

How can the church be strong in these times? How could God turn these events for good amongst that hardship?

Read Matthew 24:36-44. **While we don't believe Covid-19 is a sign of Jesus' return, what does this parable highlight to you? Why do we need to be awake like Jesus coming back soon?**

Read John 4:35. **How is now such a significant time for the gospel to go out? How could the gospel reach people in this crisis?**

3 – PRAYER THROUGH THESE TIMES

Spend some time in prayer as a group focussing on; 1) families in need with sickness and finances; 2) our government and decision makers; 3) our medical and healthcare workers who we have many of at Oceanside; 4) For us to completely trust God for breakthrough

Additional References:

1 Thessalonians 5:6 (ESV)

⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

1 Peter 5:7–8 (ESV)

⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2 John 8 (ESV)

⁸ Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

Luke 17:3 (ESV)

³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him,

Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

Matthew 24:42–43 (ESV)

⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

Luke 12:37 (ESV)

³⁷ Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

Romans 13:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

1 Corinthians 16:13–14 (ESV)

¹³ Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. ¹⁴ Let all that you do be done in love.

1 John 5:3–4 (ESV)

³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Mark 8:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ And he cautioned them, saying, “Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.”

1 Timothy 4:1 (ESV)

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,

Acts 20:28 (ESV)

²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

John 4:35 (ESV)

³⁵ Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.