

ISRAEL, THE RAPTURE, AND THE GOD WHO KEEPS HIS WORD

ROMANS 11 & 1 THESSALONIANS 4

MAIN TAKEAWAY

God keeps His promises, and every soul matters to God!

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

Do you have any old unused gift cards? Share about what they are and why you didn't use them. As Pastor Greg explained, in what way are the promises of God like gift cards?

How have you experienced God's "exceedingly great and precious promises" (2 Peter 1:4)? How are God's promises life-giving to you (Psalm 119:49-50)?

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ GENESIS 12:1-3 & ROMANS 11:13-27

Because God kept His promises to Israel, we know He will keep His promises to us (Romans 11:17). How does God's past faithfulness provide present and future assurance of His promises? How do you practically remember this?

God uses us to bless the people who have blessed us (Romans 11:14). How have the Jewish people blessed us, and how can we bless them? How can our faith in Jesus make others spiritually "jealous"?

Israel plays a key role in the last days (Romans 11:25-26). What is the spiritual blindness among Jewish people? How are we seeing a dramatic change in this?

God is a promise-keeper, and He cares about every soul. How do these truths compel you to share the gospel with those who need to hear it?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18

What is the Rapture (John 14:3)? When is the Rapture (Matthew 24:36)?

One of the signs of the last days will be a renewed interest in Bible prophecy (Daniel 12:4). How are you seeing this today? How are you growing in your understanding?

At the Rapture, we will get new bodies, reunite with loved ones in the Lord, and always be with the Lord. How do these truths cause you to live with anticipation of the future?

How does believing in and teaching about the Rapture bring hope (v.13) and motivate godliness (1 John 3:3)?

How can you take seriously Paul's exhortation to encourage others in response to the reality of the Rapture (v.18)? How can such encouragement regularly happen at church and in small groups?

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

As believers, we should be spiritually awake and alert (Romans 13:11). How do current events and Bible prophecy cause you to look up (Luke 21:28) and long for Christ's return (Revelation 22:20–21)?

God keeps every one of His promises to us—that we will never be alone (Isaiah 41:10), He will get us through whatever we're facing (Isaiah 43:2), and that Jesus will come again (John 14:1–3). As you study Bible prophecy and the End Times, how do God's promises give you comfort and conviction about current events and future realities?

PRAYER

Give thanks to God for His promises, for the Jewish people and for you. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6). Pray for perspective and passion as we live in the End Times—that others may see your walk with God and desire to know Jesus.