



February 24, 2019

It's the End of the World as we Know It

Introduction:

There are things that we can look at that point to signs that we are in the last days, but really, no one knows. Not even Jesus knew, so we won't either. The question isn't 'are we living in the last days?' The real question is 'how do I live with urgency knowing that Jesus could come at any minute?'

Big Statement:

What I believe about eternity, determines how I will live today.

"But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar... Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be?" 2 Peter 3:10-11

Start Talking:

Share a time when you came very close to dying or being seriously injured or ill.

Start Thinking:

Read 1 Peter 4:1-11

How can suffering change a person's life for the better? How have you seen this to be true in your own life?

Why would the radical change in the lifestyle of Christians be so upsetting to their pagan friends or family? (v.4)

When has someone heaped abuse on you because of something you wouldn't join them in doing?

How does your lifestyle differ from that of your non-Christian friends?

From vs.7-10, what are some priorities that a Christian should have in their life?

What standard does Peter set up for us in this passage regarding what we say and do?

If you were to rate yourself on the "love meter" from 1 (shallow) to 10 (deep), how have you been doing at showing love to others lately?

Start Praying:

God, we believe you are good. We know about your grace, but we are often unaware of it. Father, help us to see and know your grace this week. Remind us of what you did for us when you went to the cross, how we were changed when you entered our lives. And because of the grace that you gave us, lead us to be dispensers of that grace to the people in our personal spheres of influence. Amen!

Start Doing:

Ask someone close to you to assess whether you are living a life that makes an eternal difference. Give them permission to be very open and honest in their assessment, and learn from them, not be offended by them.

People are the only thing that we come in contact with that is eternal. This week focus on 1 person that you aren't sure whether they would be ready for the "end of the world". Mark your calendar and do something that would exemplify vs.10.