

MATTHEW 24:4-14

DISCUSSION GUIDE

STEP 1 - PRAY FOR GOD TO GIVE UNDERSTANDING

STEP 2 - READ TEXT

Read the text: Matthew 24:1-14

STEP 3 - DISCUSS TEXT

DISCUSS THE TEXT BRIEFLY:

IN THE SERMON WE DISCUSS NINE DIFFERENT FALSE ALARMS GIVEN IN THE TEXT. THESE ARE CALLED FALSE ALARMS BECAUSE THEY ARE EVENTS THAT SIGNIFY JESUS IS RETURNING SOON, BUT THE END ISN'T QUITE YET.

FALSE ALARMS:

1. FALSE MESSIANIC CLAIMS
2. RUMORS OF WARS
3. ACTUAL WAR
4. FAMINES (WIDE SPREAD FOOD SHORTAGE)
5. EARTHQUAKES
6. PERSECUTION AND HATRED FROM THE WORLD
7. MANY PEOPLE WILL FALL AWAY
8. FALSE PROPHETS WILL ARISE AND LEAD PEOPLE ASTRAY
9. THE LOVE OF MANY GROWS COLD

ACTIVITY

RANK EACH OF THE FALSE ALARMS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDERS AND COMPARE YOUR RESULTS WITH EACH OTHER:

1. ORDER OF WHICH YOU THINK OCCURS MORE IN THE CURRENT TIME
2. ORDER OF WHICH FEELS MOST LIKE THE END OF THE WORLD WHILE THEY ARE OCCURING
3. IF YOU COULD REMOVE THREE FROM THIS LIST, WHICH WOULD YOU REMOVE AND WHY?

FOR THE LEADER

OBJECTIVE: This is purely a brainstorming and fellowship generating activity. It's not meant to be deeply theological and more opinion driven. Use this as an opportunity to let people discuss their insecurities about these events and process them out loud.

STEP 4 - DEEPER DISCUSSION

DEEPER DISCUSSION:

1. IN THE SERMON, WE DISCUSS TWO POSITIVES FROM THESE FALSE ALARMS. ONE POSITIVE IS THAT THOSE WHO ENDURE WILL BE SAVED. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO ENDURE IN CHRIST THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES? WHAT BUILDS ENDURANCE IN US?
2. THE SECOND BENEFIT WE TALKED ABOUT WAS THAT THE GOSPEL WOULD BE PREACHED TO THE WHOLE WORLD. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
 - a. WHAT CAN I TANGIBLY DO TO BE A PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE WHOLE WORLD?
 - b. WHAT ACTIONS HAVE I TAKEN SINCE A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO WHEN WE MAPPED OUT HOW REPUBLIC IS UNIQUELY POSITIONED?

STEP 5 - ACTIVITY

TAKE A LARGE POST IT OR A PIECE OF PAPER AND COLLECT NAMES OF LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS THAT ARE LOST. PRAY FOR THEIR NAMES EACH INDIVIDUALLY AND OUT LOUD. ASK GOD TO GIVE YOU OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCIPLE THEM INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

STEP 6 - TAKE HOME

Exercise and challenge: PICK ONE

1. Do not pray for anything FOR you this week. Pray either for others or prayer for the names on that list.
2. Fast one meal praying for the salvation of those on the list.