



May I join you?
Even Waldo
needs friends!

Next week will be better if ...

- ▶ **Include someone new in our group. Who could you invite to discuss our passage in real time?**
 - Use Google Hangout for live audio & video.
 - Group calling or speaker phone.
 - Family discussions around your table.

Don't be a **hermit!**

- ▶ Call
- ▶ Text
- ▶ Email
- ▶ Pray
- ▶ Help
- ▶ Facetime
- ▶ **CONNECT!**



Welcome to **GCC!**
Grace COVID Church

**PB's
new
lunch
buddies!**



The Difference Is Night AND Day

TRUE



Studies in 1 & 2 Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2, NIV

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:3, NIV

³ *While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.*

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, NIV

⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

1 Thessalonians 5:6-7, NIV

⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night.

1 Thessalonians 5:8, NIV

⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10, NIV

⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

2020

SAVE THE
DATE

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

- ▶ **Save** the Date!
- ▶ **Live** the Date!
- ▶ **Love** the Date!

Which happened in 1988?

- A. The Dodgers win the World Series over the A's.
- B. A bomb kills 270 on Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.
- C. The new US Embassy in Moscow is razed because it is riddled with Soviet listening devices.
- D. Bob & Peggy celebrate their 10th anniversary.
- E. The notable author of *88 Reasons Jesus Will Return in '88* is proven wrong.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2, NIV

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

Save the Date

What is *the Day of the Lord*?

- ▶ A time when God intervenes directly in human affairs to judge and deliver his people from oppression.
- ▶ The Day of Christ = Day of the Lord.

1 Co 4:5; 5:5; 2 Co 1:14; 2 Th 2:2; 2 Ti 1:12; Ph 1:6

Like a thief in the night

No one knows the day or the hour.

--Jesus (Mt 25:13)

im • mi • nent

- ▶ About to happen.
- ▶ About to occur at any moment.
- ▶ Menacingly close at hand.

1 Thessalonians 5:3, NIV

³ *While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.*

Save the Date

What's up with *peace and safety*?

- ▶ The Roman empire promised *pax et securitas* to the people and nations they ruled. Rome offered deliverance or “salvation” from turmoil and danger.

Save the Date

What's worse than coronavirus?

- ▶ An infection that affect 100% humanity, is spread at birth, and results in a 100% mortality rate.
- ▶ A spiritual infection called "sin."

Live the Date

► Keep your wits about you!

- We do not know **when** Christ will return.
- We do know **that** Christ will return.
- We do know **how to live** like Christ will return.

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, NIV

⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

1 Thessalonians 5:6-7, NIV

⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night.

Dr. Gene L Green



What they are is what they should do.

The moral exhortation finds its roots in the previous work of God in their lives. They have been made “children of light and children of the day” via their salvation, and now they are to act according to that new state of being.

The gift of grace *includes* within it the call to obedience.

Save the Date

Is my life ...

“Me time?”

or

“Jesus time?”

1 Thessalonians 5:8, NIV

⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

Love the Date

- ▶ **Faith** – keep trusting God by your actions.
- ▶ **Love** – keep meeting real, tangible needs.
- ▶ **Hope** – keep persevering! You have the full impact of God's saving power just ahead.

Love the Date

- ▶ If **faith, hope, & love** are our spiritual defense against our enemy what are the **spiritual weapons that attack us?**
 - *Doubt.*
 - Self-absorption.
 - Discouragement.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10, NIV

⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

3 Coronavirus Defenses

- 1. Thank God** you have him, his promises and his “forever” because you have his Son.
- 2. Enjoy your life today with him.** His word, prayer, conversation, gratitude, obey him.
- 3. Share your hope** and pray, “God guide me to responsive people.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.