

12/10/17 | The Night Before Christmas: Jerusalem



"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come." —Matthew 24:42, NIV

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever searched for something you had in your hand (or your pocket, or on your head) all along? How did that make you feel when you found it?
2. Consider this piece of a Christmas song. Who is the "King" the Earth is receiving? How should "every heart prepare Him room"? Does this apply to people today? Does it apply to you? How have you responded?

*"Let Earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare Him room."
—Joy to the World*

First Coming

3. Read Luke 2:27-39, and note how often this passage mentions following the Law. Would keeping with the Law and traditions have helped Jesus become more or less obvious to the Jews? What are other ways God prepared the Jews for Jesus' coming? (For hints, see Isaiah 9 and Luke 1-2).
4. What was it about Simeon that let him see Jesus for who He was? What was it about Anna that let her see Jesus for who He was? What might we need in order to prepare for Jesus' second coming?

Be Ready!

5. Read Matthew 25:1-13. Who was ready for the bridegroom's arrival? How does this apply to us?

6. Read Mark 13:32-37. What were the slaves told to be ready for? How does this apply to us?

7. Read Luke 12:35-46. What is the advantage to being ready? How does this apply to us?

8. Read Colossians 4:2 and 1 Peter 4:7. How are we to be ready? What have these parables told you? How can you apply this to your life this week?

Second Coming

9. Do you enjoy the anticipation of waiting, or are you more impatient?

10. One of the things that can make anticipation fun is knowing the end date. It can be easy to anticipate Christmas Day because you know exactly when it will come. We don't know when Jesus will come again. How does waiting for That Day play out for you?

TAKEAWAY: Anticipate Jesus' return; let Him change you this week.