

TIMB NH Kids Message Outline: Week 46: 12/1/2024

NT Book:	1 Thessalonians
OT Book:	None
Focus:	This Is My Victory
Theme:	Jesus' Return
Passage:	1 Thessalonians
OT Story:	None
Thematic Points to Hit:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jesus is returning from heaven one day. And the Thessalonian believers had looked forward to this greatly. (1 Thessalonians 1:8-10)2. The Thessalonians believers had come to understand that Jesus was coming back, but they were worried about people who died waiting for it to happen. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)3. Paul clearly teaches that those who are still alive AND those who are dead but believing will share in Jesus' victory. In fact, the dead will rise first. And then "After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)4. As for the timing of it all, we do not know. Jesus' return could happen at any moment, in a 1000 years or a 1000 seconds. And so the idea is that we are always ready for Jesus' return. (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)5. We learn in 2 Thessalonians, which we'll go over next week, that this is not a passive hope. We should be actively waiting, not sitting on our hands.6. And so while we wait, Paul gives us good instruction regarding how to conduct ourselves as we wait: we should hold our bodies in purity, love each other, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil." (1 Thessalonians 4, 5)

TIMB NH Kids: This Is My Bible: Week 46: 12/1/2024

Small Group:

Once you have your group of kids in your room, you may choose to do the following activities in any order you choose.

Craft: Keep Watch for Jesus Craft

See below for instructions on the Keep Watch for Jesus Craft. We will use tape instead of velcro to fasten them.

Game: Signs of the End

Split the kids into two teams, and distribute Bibles evenly among the two teams. Give each team a signs of the end printout and explain that the team that connects the verses with their corresponding signs first wins. There will be a cheat sheet for checking. The goal is to have the kids read the pertinent verses and connect them with the shorthand way of describing them.

Discussion

1. Are you excited about Jesus coming back? If not, why is that? If so, what is exciting about it?
2. What happens to people who have died but believed in Jesus when He comes back? What does this mean for how we mourn the loss of a loved believer?
3. Next week we will talk about how the Thessalonians had come to worry about missing the second coming. What have we learned today that shows us we *won't* miss it?
4. How does the reality of Jesus' return being at any moment inform how we should live and behave?
5. How does Paul say we should be living in response to the knowledge of Jesus' imminent return? Specifically? (1 Thessalonians 4, 5)