# TALK IT OVER

**Stand Firm**
**By Waiting Well** - Ross Frisbie
1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

## DT - DOMINANT THOUGHT

If you stay ready you won't have to get ready.

## CONVO STARTER

Do you ever think about what it will be like when Christ comes back again? Are you excited, scared, or unsure about it?

## CONSIDER THIS

- Grieve differently.
- Live expectantly.
- Encourage consistently.

## RESOURCES

- Pikes Peak Christian Church
- Sermon Video

## KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

- "Our text today reminds us that we can stand firm even if the prospect of death arrives because we are waiting well as we anticipate the arrival of Jesus' second coming. Firm believers watch and wait well." – Ross Frisbie
- *We wait for the blessed hope–the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. – Titus 2:13*
- "Paul saw the return of Jesus as up lifting. He was excited to talk about what would happen when Jesus came back. Texts like this are not primarily written to try and satisfy some curiosity you have about the end times, these texts are written to fortify your faith. This passage is not written so you could figure out an exact date, they are written so you can anticipate." – Ross Frisbie
- *And so, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to be found living peaceful lives that are pure and blameless in his sight. – 2 Peter 3:14*
- "This is why we grieve differently, as people with hope. Have you heard the sound of grief without hope? The very sound of grief like that, a grief without hope, is terrible. Believers grieve differently. We still grieve, but our grief is over a temporary separation." – Ross Frisbie
- *But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak, mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control. – Philippians 3:20-21*
- "We need to live like we believe his return is sure, by living expectantly. You show what you believe about that Day by the way you are living this day. Your commitment to holiness reveals your eagerness for the return of Jesus." – Ross Frisbie
- *Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. – Hebrews 10:24-25*
- "Hope must be professed in order to be possessed. This is why the first Christians would say to each other, 'Maranatha,' which means, 'Our Lord, come.' Life has a way of making the waiting seem so long, so let's help encourage each other consistently." – Ross Frisbie

## TALK IT OVER

**Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Grieve Differently.** Make no mistake that the return of Jesus will be awesome and it will be visible to all. It will be unexpected to some, especially those who don't know Jesus. It wil bring glory and honor to Jesus, but thinking about and waiting well for his return should encourage us, even in the midst of grief. You could even say that we grieve confidently because of the hope we have in Jesus. Our grief is different because there is life in the grief and there is life after the grave. The sequel to Christ's resurrection will be just as awesome as the original. **How should our hope in Jesus' second coming impact the way we live here on earth? What loss have you grieved the most for?**

**Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-8. Live Expectantly.** Our responsibility is not to speculate on a day but to live expectantly while we wait well for the day of his return. The New Testament shows us that the timing of Jesus' return is not perfectly clear, but that we can perfectly confident in what Jesus will do for us. This means that we can live a life that counts, one with great purpose and meaning because we are always ready. Your commitment to holiness reveals your eagerness for the return of Jesus. If we really believe He is coming back then we will really allow the Spirit to transform us into His image. **What is your personal pursuit of holiness looking like these days? Is following Jesus at the top for you? Are you ready for his return, have you told the people in your life about Jesus who don't know Him yet?**

**Read 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11. Encourage Consistently.** We need encouragement and others in the body of Christ need encouragement too. The waiting seems to go on for a long time, so we need to help each other along to keep being faithful and doing good for the Kingdom of God. The hopelessness of the world as well as the fleeting pleasures of this life can be distracting to us. **Who is someone that God is calling you to encourage on a consistent basis to remain strong in Christ? What type of encouragement do you need from others in order to do the same so that you do not grow weary or disheartened?**

## ACTION STEP

If you stay ready you won't have to get ready. Are you ready? Are you making your life count for Christ? Try something different this week than your normal routine: read through a whole book of the Bible in one sitting (not a super short one), fast for a day, pray for an hour straight without stopping.