



### **The “What” Discussion Guide**

In 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Paul addresses his audience’s concern for when the Day of the Lord comes, and his primary point is that we don’t know when, but we do know WHAT. We can’t know when the Day of the Lord is coming, but we do know what is coming and what it entails. Therefore, we must be prepared for its coming. To be prepared for the Day of the Lord is to be aware of what’s going on around us spiritually and to be active, unlike unbelievers who are ignorant and inactive. We are called to don the armor of faith, love, and hope as we await the return of the King, like soldier standing watch until their commander returns. That armor allows us to actively serve “the least of these”. It also allows us to endure suffering because of the hope that we have in the return of Christ. This hope is not an optimistic outlook on the future, but a confident belief that the war has already been won.

## **Discussion Questions**

- What are some ways in which we get more concerned with the “when” than the “what”?
- What messages of “peace and security” do we hear in our culture?
- What are the differences between those who are awake and those who are asleep?
- If we are awake and aware of what’s going on around us spiritually, how should that change our view of those who are asleep?
- Why is the hope we have in Christ superior to the hope of “peace and security”?