

Hang in There, Homesick Heart

If you didn't read the article and would like to, here is the link: [Hang in There, Homesick Heart](#)

Reminders:

- Please read and consider our discussion questions on your own prior to the Gathering on Thursday.
- Bring your Bible and a copy of these questions with you on Thursday night.

6/1/23 Questions

Worn Down

It never stops. Like machine-gun fire, every day something new happens, some new rising of evil that would have made our jaws drop just a few years ago. Now, we're nearly becoming desensitized to it and certainly worn down by it.

- 1) Do the words "worn down" describe you lately? Give examples of your emotions and thoughts recently.
- 2) What ways have you found to cope with the daily barrage of bad news?

Are We There Yet?

When watching a pastor or teacher and hearing them say we could still be here several more years, my heart sinks into my stomach. I don't want to believe it. I'm ready to go home.

- 1) Are you shocked that we're still around? Were you thinking the rapture would be way sooner?
- 2) Like me, have you ever ranted to people about how close the rapture "has to be", only to find yourself still here a couple years later?

Me, Myself, and I

"I sometimes feel kind of selfish since I know what will befall 'them,' and still I long for Jesus' appearing each and every day." ~ Lisa

- 1) Since we know what our departure means for those who will be left behind, does our longing for the rapture mean we're selfish?
- 2) Discuss how Titus 2:13 and 2 Timothy 4:8 may explain our homesick hearts.
- 3) Does it help you in the waiting to know that our extended time here gives the lost extra time to come to Jesus?

- 4) Read 2 Peter 3:9. Do you have people in your family or close circle who need God's merciful delay?

Crazy Belief

“Seriously, the dead rising and the alive being caught up seems like some impossible fantasy—unless you've read the Word of God and see just how truly spectacular He has historically made a way. He's been known to part a sea and part a river to deliver His people. He floated a family in an ark as a means of rescue. He took a prophet to heaven in a blazing chariot.” ~ Lisa

- 1) How do God's previous miracles, as recorded in the Bible, reassure us that the rapture can and will happen?
- 2) How does God fulfilling His promises to His people throughout history help us to hang in there while waiting?

Cloud of Scoffers

Most people I know believe in the rapture, yet that belief is not something that affects or alters their way of life. They don't mock me exactly, but I've found that many distance themselves from me because of my constant discussion of the rapture and prophecy topics.

- 1) Do you have rapture mockers and scoffers in your life who avoid you?
- 2) Do you respond to others' mocking and scoffing of the rapture, or have you gotten tired of trying to warn them?

Faith over Fear

“I admit I get worn too and need to focus on what fosters my faith rather than what fuels my fear. I'll share with you the best advice I've been given (by the Holy Spirit), which is to watch less of the rising darkness and focus more on the coming Light.” ~ Lisa

- 1) Discuss how watching too much negative news can feed our fear.
- 2) How can watching videos and teaching on the rapture fuel our faith?

Cling to Jesus

“Watching the world drains. Reaching for the Word restores.” ~ Lisa

- 1) How do the world—and even good things—try to distract us from our intimate relationship with Jesus?
- 2) Why is having a quiet time each day in the Word so critical, especially now?
- 3) What are some of your favorite verses that bring your soul peace?

“Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.” (Isaiah 40:31)

We're Not Alone

- 1) How does time together with our Gathering group help meet your specific needs each week?
- 2) How can we encourage other weary believers as we long to be encouraged? How will this in turn affect us?