



— ❧ Week 3 ❧ —

**This weeks focus scripture:** Romans 13:11-14

**Additional scripture referenced:** *Ephesians 1:18-20, Hebrews 12:1, Philippians 4:8-9, Colossians 3:9-10, Galatians 5:16*

**This weeks memory challenge:** *Romans 13:11 And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.*

— ❧ Message Notes ❧ —

✝ Waiting for God

✝ The Time is NOW  
*Romans 13:11-12a*

- ...To be awake
- ...Our salvation is near
- ...The cusp of dawn

✝ How then shall we live?  
*Romans 13:12b-14*

- Wide awake!  
*Ephesians 1:18-20*
- What we lay aside  
*Hebrews 12:1*
- What we put on  
*Philippians 4:8-9*
- Living in the day
- Living Armor  
*Colossians 3:9-10*
- Make no provision  
*Galatians 5:16*

✝ As New Creations in Christ who have *brought from death to life*, our hope is not in an EVENT, it is in a PERSON.

In Christ, we are not just waiting for the FUTURE! We are bringing the future into the NOW.

**Day 1:** Pastor Ethan referenced the ‘tragicomedy’ play ‘*Waiting for Godot*’, where the characters represent the authors view of mankind pointlessly waiting for some hoped for future solution to their problems- some meaning to life- that ultimately never comes. Do you see this dynamic in the world around you? In what ways do people wait for ‘false hopes’ to bring hope and meaning to life?

How is the Christian hope of Christ’s return different? If someone accused our hope of Christ’s return as just another form of ‘Waiting for Godot’, how would you respond?

What are ways that Christians, (or Christian culture), have distorted or held unhealthy perspectives about the promise of Christ’s return?

**Day 2:** Read Romans 13:11 and Ephesians 1:18-20. What do you think Paul meant by ‘the hour has come for us to wake up from our slumber?’ As followers of Christ, how can we at times be ‘asleep’ in light of who we now are (our identity in Christ) and God’s Kingdom work in us and around us? In what ways is the Holy Spirit working to ‘wake you up’ to God’s truth, presence, and calling in your life?

**Day 3:** Read Romans 13:11-14 and Hebrews 12:1. What are the ‘deeds of darkness’ that God calls us to lay aside? What does this look like in your own life?

This is subtle, but why is it significant that Paul calls us to put off the ‘deeds of darkness’, and to put on the ‘armor of light’ – as opposed to just putting on ‘deeds of light’? What is the ‘armor of light’ that God calls us to put on? What does this look like?

**Day 4:** Meditate on Romans 13:14, Galatians 5:16, and Colossians 3:9-10. What does it look like to ‘put on Christ’? Why is this truth so important for living the Christian life?

What does Paul mean by ‘make no provision for the flesh’? (NASB). How do we actually do this in daily life? (Philippians 4:8-9 is one great example).