## **Small Group Guide**

The goal of our group is to multiply a healthy group through disciple-making. A disciple is one who loves and obeys Jesus.

## Connect (1/3 of meeting)

- Share highs and/or lows from the previous week or where you saw God working
- Worship together: Song Suggestion: <u>Revelation Song, Kari Jobe</u>
- Were you able to pray or talk with anyone on your list of three people from last week?

Discover (what God is saying to you)

- Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.
- Read Matt. 24:4-6; 20-26; and 34-44. You can have multiple readers.
- What jumps out to you in this passage and why do you think that caught your attention?
- Verse 34 says: Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Some scholars argue Jesus is implying that "this generation" means that his generation will see the second coming during A.D. 70, when the Romans destroyed the temple, which they did. Read the excerpt below and share your thoughts with the group.

There are no historical records of anyone seeing Jesus during the end of the second temple. It is not enough to claim the second coming of Christ occurred over Jerusalem. Jesus clearly implied it would a worldwide spectacle. The point is that the second coming did not occur in Jerusalem in A.D. 70. To claim that the second coming did occur in a spiritual sense begs the question why not a physical occurrence? Verse 27 indicates that everyone who is alive will see him.<sup>1</sup>

- How has, or how can "normal life" lull you into a spiritual grogginess, where you are distracted and unprepared for the coming of Christ?
- How does Jesus' teaching about the end of the age impact your perspective on current world events?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.neverthirsty.org/bible-qa/qa-archives/question/what-does-this-generation-mean-in-matthew-24/

Go (tell and do!)

- How can we discern true from false teachings in light of Jesus' warnings?
- The world is not getting better, it is getting worse, and more hostile toward the gospel. How does this make you feel? Talk to God about your anxieties and ask him for strength to endure.
- Pray for strength to endure and for love to prevail in times of hardship.