

**Women's Bible Study**  
**Discussion Questions**

Matthew 24

1. In this chapter, Jesus tells his disciples about the future. Bible scholars state that he is pointing to three events: 1) the fall of Jerusalem and destruction of the temple in 70 AD; 2) the end of all history referred to in the Old Testament as "The Day of the Lord;" and 3) Christ's triumphant return. It is not always clear which verses refer to which event, and there is much overlap. As you re-read the chapter, especially verses 4-26, list warning signs about the condition of the world that did or will precede these catastrophic events.
  
2. This "Olivet Discourse" was likely a private conversation Jesus had with only a few of the disciples. See Mark's account in Mark 13:3-4 and Matthew 4:18 and 20. Who were these disciples and what do they have in common?
  
3. According to Matthew 24:36, only God the Father knows when these events will occur, yet many Christians still try to interpret modern news to calculate dates and times. What are the dangers of this practice?
  
4. Jesus tells two short parables to show how we should behave while waiting for his return.
  - a. Verses 42-44 are about a nocturnal thief. What is the point of this story for us?
  
  - b. Verses 45-51 are about disorderly servants and reliable ones. What is the lesson if this story?
  
5. What feelings have been brought to your mind by the ideas of history ending and Christ returning? (*e.g.* surprise, fear, delight, worry, doubt, reassurance, confusion) How should the truth of his coming affect your daily life? How can you prepare for the Lord's coming? Pray with your group for the Lord to help you trust him with the many unknowns.