

## Be Ready for Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself.”  
Mark 12:30-31

### DAY 1 MARK 12:1-17 — The Authorities

1. Substitute each of the following in the parable. vv. 1-12  
The vineyard: Nation of Israel      Owner of the vineyard: God      Son: Jesus  
Tenant Farmers: Religious Leaders      Servants: Prophets      Others: Gentiles  
What points do you think Jesus was trying to get across that still apply to us?
2. What do we learn about human nature? What do we learn about God’s nature?
3. Read verses 13-17. What did the Pharisees and Herodians ask Jesus? What is God’s? What do you think Jesus wants you to learn from His answer? Refer to Romans 13:1-2.

### DAY 2 MARK 12:18-44 — What Is Important

4. Read verses 18-25. How did Jesus reply to the Sadducees’ supposedly unanswerable question?
5. Read verses 26-27. What point is Jesus making? How did Jesus address the belief of all Sadducees that there is no life after death?

6. Read verses 28-34. According to the greatest commandment, how are we to love God? How are we supposed to love our neighbors? Why do you think Jesus says that there are no greater commandments than these?
  
7. Read verses 35-37. What point is Jesus making?
  
8. Read verses 38-44. What do these verses teach us about people? What principle do we learn about giving?

### **DAY 3**    MARK 13:1-13 — Be Ready for Coming Persecution

9. As the disciples were leaving the Temple, what did Jesus say would happen? vv. 1-2  
(This prophecy was fulfilled approximately 40 years later.)
  
10. Read verses 3-13. What must happen first, before the end can come? v. 10 What will the Holy Spirit do for believers? v. 11 What must we do? v.13
  
11. What do you think is the main point Jesus wants His disciples to get by sharing these signs?
  
12. Does the imminent approach of the end of the world make you uneasy or fearful? Explain.

**DAY 4****MARK 13:14-37 — The Return of Christ**

13. Read verses 14-23. Review the definition of Tribulation. The world scene just before the return of Jesus will be horrible. Choose a couple of words from these verses that describe what that time will be like. What temptation will face even believers during this time? vv. 21-22
14. Read verses 24-37. When will Jesus return? v. 32 What illustration does Jesus give about His return? vv. 34-36 What should we be doing while waiting for Jesus' return?

**DAY 5****MARK 12-13:37 — Wrap Up**

15. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, mind and soul? What do you need to do to love God more? To love your neighbor more?
16. Jesus gives us a vivid description of the signs of the end of the world as we know it. He includes important details, warnings, and instructions for those who love and obey Him. What does Jesus say we'll need to survive?

**TAKE AWAY**

Think about your life before Jesus. What are some of the ways you were hard to love? How does that change your perspective on the hard-to-love people in your life today?

**BLESSING**

When Jesus returns we do not know, but these signs will be a reminder that Jesus is coming very soon to restore the world. Stay alert!

## Be Ready for Jesus

These final events of Jesus' public ministry highlight the increasing hostility of the religious leaders. In each conflict there is a chance for them to change their attitude toward Jesus. Only the scribe who agreed with Jesus on the greatest commandment was open to the truth. Accepting Jesus is a matter of having our eyes opened to the truth of the gospel. Christian growth is learning to see as God sees—to look at people and events from the divine viewpoint. It is a process that takes time; it takes place only as we follow Jesus, “the light of the world” (John 8:12).

Jesus, now on His way to be crucified as a common criminal, will come again “with great power and glory.” Mark repeats three times that no one except the Father knows the time of the end. The only proper response is alertness, watchfulness: “Be on guard! Be alert!” (v. 33), “Keep watch” (v. 35), “Watch for Him!” (v. 37). The Father alone has determine for Him when the end should come (Acts 1:7).

Who is Jesus to you and how is that affecting how you live your life?

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