**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. March 5, 2017**

**Be Encouraged: The King Is Coming**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Key truth:** In view of Jesus Christ imminent return we should live a life of love and expectancy.

**The Coming of the Lord:** A time of rejoicing for believers.

1. We should expect His return. Matthew 24:36-51

 A. Be ready.

 B. Be watchful.

 C. Be self-controlled.

 D. Live on Purpose.

2. God’s eternal timetable is out of our control but not

 out of the realm of our understanding.

3. As believers we should not be occupied with

 determining when Jesus Christ will return.

ACTS 1:6-8

**The Day of Lord:** A time of judgment and mourning for unbelievers.

1. God will pour out His wrath on unbelievers.

 A. Because they reject Jesus Christ as Savior.

 John 3:36, Romans 2:5, Romans 5:9

2. True peace and security is found only in Jesus Christ.

3. The Day of the Lord makes sharing the gospel a

 necessity in the life of a believer. ACTS 24:24-25

4. As children of God we are not destined for wrath.

**Taking it beyond the walls**: While we are waiting for Jesus Christ to return, encourage and edify one another. Look for opportunities to share the gospel.

**Connection Group Study Questions**

**Quick Review:** Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

**Getting to know you**: Do you believe it is counterproductive to talk about the love of God and the wrath of God?

How do you explain the love and the wrath of God both existing?

Read: 2 Peter 3:1-10: How did the Apostle Peter view the patience of Jesus Christ return? What did he equate God’s slowness in coming back with?

Read Romans 1:18-32: Is the wrath of God justified? Is there any excuse for someone not coming to faith in Jesus Christ?

Read Matthew 24:45-51: How should we live as Christians in view of Jesus Christ return?

Read: Jude 17-23: How should we view those who doubt the truth of Jesus Christ?

**Prayer:** Spend time praying for at least one person who doesn’t know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.