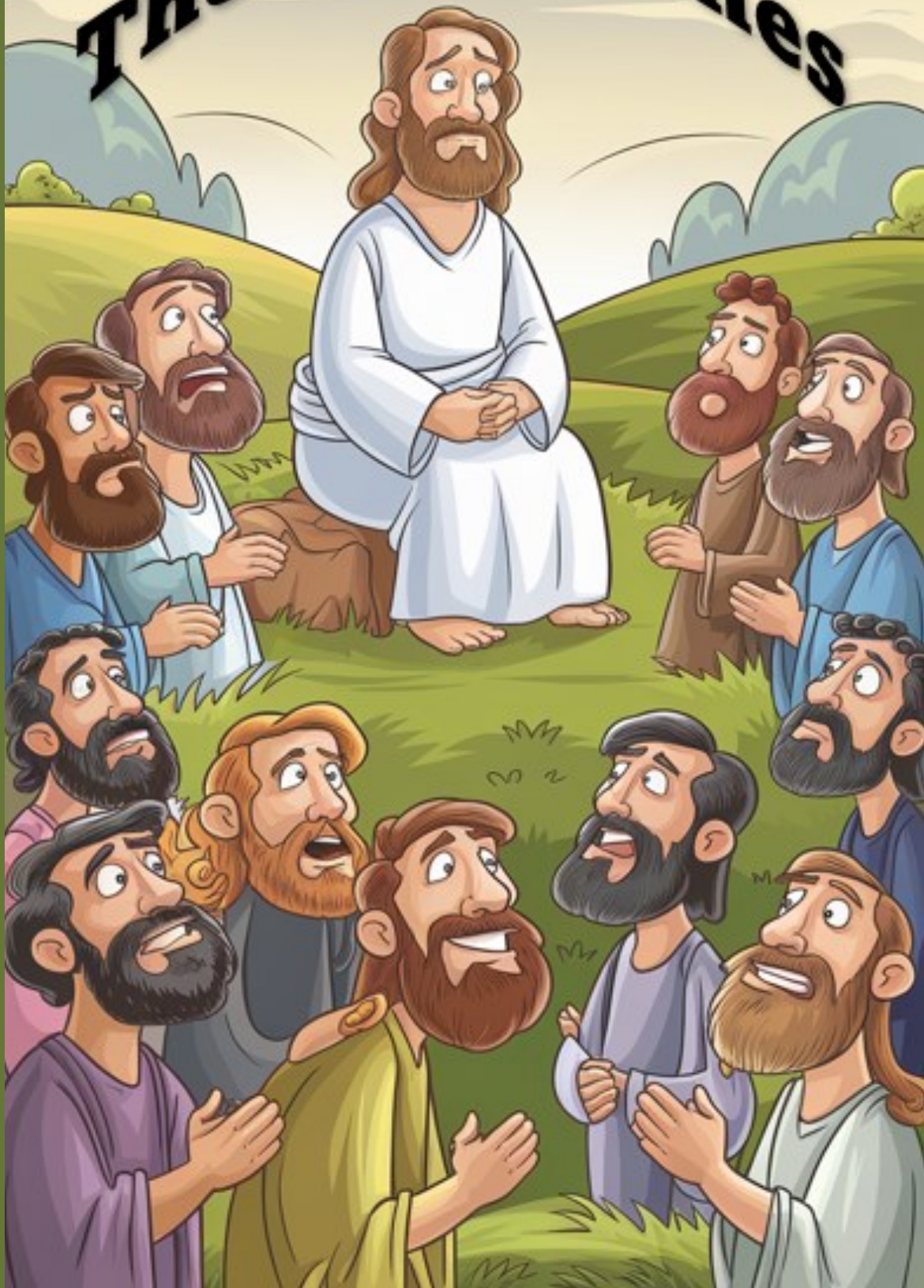


Jesus' Disciples Ask About The End Times



Jesus' Disciples Ask About End Times

“See, I have told you ahead of time.” (Mt. 24:25)

MEMORY VERSE

Read: Matthew 24:3-14

Explain: that Jesus' disciples asked Him about the sign of His return and the end of the age.

Ask: how the children feel about these events. (Allow answers)

Reassure them: that Jesus is always with us and we don't need to be afraid.

Ask: Why would Jesus tell His disciples about these future events if they wouldn't happen in their lifetime? In fact, they wouldn't happen for over 2000 years? (Allow answers)

Suggest one or more of these answers:

1. **Be Ready:** Jesus told His friends about the signs so they could always be ready for His return. It's like knowing when a special guest is coming to your house—you want to be prepared!
2. **Stay Hopeful:** Even when things get tough, Jesus wanted His friends to remember that He will come back and make everything better. This gives us hope and makes us feel better.
3. **Know the Truth:** Jesus warned about people who might try to trick us. By knowing the signs, we can tell who is telling the truth and who isn't.
4. **Share the Good News:** Jesus wanted His friends to tell everyone about Him before He comes back. This way, more people can know about His love.

Matthew 24:42,
“Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know on what
day your Lord will
come.”



Get Attention

As your kids arrive, involve them in creating a timeline of their life.

Gather:

- Post-it Notes
- Pens/Markers
- Poster Boards
- Glue and/or tape

Procedure:

1. Have the kids write the significant events of their life, such as: birth, first day of school, etc. on a Post-it.
2. Have them draw a line on the poster board.
3. Help the kids place each Post-it on the line in correct order.
4. Have them present their timelines to the rest of the group.



Trusting God in Uncertain Times:

If you decide to use the End Times Timeline (*Next Page*), this chart can help you to teach your students how to trust in God as they face life's uncertainties and challenges.

	END TIME EVENTS	DESCRIPTION	WE CAN TRUST GOD
1	Jesus Takes Believers to Heaven	Jesus will come and take all the people who believe in Him up to heaven.	God keeps His promises
2	A Bad Leader Appears	A very bad person will become a powerful leader and trick many people.	God is in control: no matter how scary things seem.
3	Hard Times for Everyone	There will be seven years of tough times with lots of problems and disasters.	God is always there to protect us.
4	A Big Final Battle	There will be a huge battle between good and bad people, and the bad leader will lose.	God triumphs over evil.
5	Jesus Comes Back	Jesus will come back to earth and defeat the bad leader and his followers.	God is always with us. Jesus will return to bring peace.
6	Peaceful Time With Jesus	Jesus will rule the world for a thousand years, and it will be a time of peace and happiness.	Trusting God brings peace and joy into our lives.
7	Everyone Gets Judged	Everyone will be judged by God for what they did in their lives. Good people will go to heaven, and bad people will be punished.	We can trust God to judge everyone fairly.
8	New Perfect World	God will make a new, perfect world where everyone who believes in Him will live happily forever.	Trusting in God leads to a wonderful future.



End Time Events Timeline

Suggested ways to use this illustration:

1. Create a Power Point slide and project the timeline on the screen while you and your students discuss it.
2. Photocopy on sheet for each of your students and let them look at it while you discuss it.
3. Send a copy home with each child to use in a family discussion.
4. Homeschool families can use this timeline during their Bible Time.
5. As a student project, have them create their own End Time Events timeline using the eight illustrations provided on the next page.



Project: Create an End Time Events Timeline

Materials: Cardstock, poster board, scissors, glue, markers, decorations.

Procedure: Photocopy one page for each student. Consider using white cardstock. Have each student cut out the circles. (Or cut ahead of time for younger students) Have the students create their own timeline of these eight events on poster board. (Allow creativity)

Alternate Idea: Play a game with the circles. Mix them up and have the students arrange them in the correct order.



Take-Home

Summary

Bible Passage:

Matthew 24

Main Point:

We are learning to trust God in times of uncertainty and trouble.

Unit Theme:

Ready for Jesus' return: living with hope and joy.

Eight End Time Events:

1. Jesus Takes Believers to Heaven
2. A Bad Leader Appears
3. Hard Times for Everyone
4. Jesus Comes Back
5. The Final Battle
6. Peaceful Time With Jesus
7. Everyone Gets Judged
8. New Perfect World

Our Strategy for Kids:

- To hear the Gospel
- To receive Christ
- To be baptized in water
- To grow strong in God
- To be empowered by the Holy Spirit
- To step up and be leaders in an ungodly world

Stories and Examples

Read Matthew 24:3-14. Jesus' disciples asked Him what would be the sign of His return and the end of the age. How do you feel when you read about these future events? (Allow answers)

Share stories from the Bible or personal experiences where faith helped overcome difficulties. Relatable stories can make the concept of trusting in God more tangible for them.

Object Lesson

Have a first aid kit.

Ask your child to pick a scar on their body and tell the story of how they got that scar. What did your parent or caregiver do when that happened to you? (Allow answers)

Suggest answers such as:

They comforted you; they praised you for being brave; they said a simple prayer for you.

Explain: When we begin to learn to trust in God in times of trouble as a child, we will face future challenges with confidence and hope.

End Times Timeline: You may want to use the timeline of eight end time events (*Included with this lesson*) to discuss with your family how to trust in God as we face an uncertain future.

Apply and Pray

Ask your child to name something they are afraid of or are worried about. Suggest that we pray and ask God to help us trust in Him.

Dear God, Thank you for loving me and comforting me when I hurt. Help me to always trust in You. Amen.

Pointers for Preparing Kids For End Times Events

Age-Appropriate Discussions:

Tailor your conversations to your child's age and maturity level. Younger children need simpler explanations, while older kids can handle more complex discussions.

Focus on God's Love and Sovereignty:

Emphasize that God is loving and in control, even during uncertain times. Reassure them that God's plans are always for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

Use Scripture:

Read and discuss relevant Bible passages together, such as Matthew 24, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Revelation 21. Help them understand the context and meaning of these scriptures.

Encourage Questions:

Allow your children to ask questions and express their thoughts and feelings. Answer honestly and reassure them that it's okay not to have all the answers.

Promote a Sense of Hope:

Highlight the hope and promise of eternal life with God. Focus on the positive aspects of the end times, such as the new heaven and new earth (Rev. 21:1-4).

Teach Trust in God:

Reinforce the importance of trusting God in all circumstances. Share stories from the Bible where people trusted God during difficult times, like Noah, Daniel, and the early Christians.

Model Calmness and Faith:

Your attitude will influence your children. Stay calm and show your faith in God's plan, even when discussing uncertain or challenging topics.

Pray Together:

Pray with your children for understanding, peace, and trust in God's plan. Encourage them to pray on their own as well.

Use Creative Activities:

Engage in activities like drawing, storytelling, or role-playing to help them process and understand the concepts. This can make the discussions more relatable and less intimidating.

Balance with Everyday Life:

Ensure that discussions about the end times are balanced with everyday life and activities. Help your children understand that while it's important to be aware, they should also enjoy and live their lives fully.