



LIFE GROUP LEADER DISCUSSION GUIDE

Living Ready for Jesus

Mark 13:24–37 • Oct 18, 2026 • 35 minutes

Aim Find confidence in Jesus' promised coming and consider what faithful watchfulness looks like in ordinary life.

Before you lead

Read Mark 13:24–37 alongside the preceding warnings. Notice the Son of Man's authority, the gathering of his people, the certainty of his words, and the unknown day and hour. Acknowledge differences over the passage's chronology without turning discussion into date-setting.

Ask the main questions first. Use the follow-ups when the group needs help going deeper; the leader notes are for your preparation. Give people time to answer, and ask them to point to the verses behind their observations.

Suggested timing Welcome, prayer, and reading 4 min • Head 7 min • Heart 12 min • Hands 9 min • Closing prayer 3 min

HEAD

Understand the passage

Read Mark 13:24–37 aloud from the ESV. Keep the passage open throughout the discussion.

1. What does Jesus describe in verses 24–27?

Follow-up: What does the gathering of his people show about his care and authority?

Leader note: Keep attention on the Son of Man's power and his people rather than speculation about every image.

2. What does Jesus teach through the example of the fig tree in verses 28–31?

Follow-up: What does Jesus say we can always depend on?

Leader note: Discuss attentiveness and the certainty of Jesus' words. Note interpretive questions without pretending they are settled here.

3. How does Jesus' example of a household in verses 32–37 help explain what it means to stay watchful?

Follow-up: What are the servants expected to do while the master is away?

Leader note: Read readiness alongside assigned work. Not knowing the hour is a reason for faithfulness, not calculation.



HEART

Examine our motives

Choose a follow-up when it helps someone explain an answer. Allow people to share honestly without pressing them to disclose more than they are ready to share.

4. Does the thought of Jesus' return bring you hope, uneasiness, or both?

Follow-up: What lies behind your response?

Leader note: Allow honest answers and keep the focus on Jesus rather than sensational details.

5. In what areas of life are you tempted to act as though things will always stay the way they are now?

Follow-up: How does that affect your priorities?

Leader note: Invite an example involving possessions, resentment, ambition, or postponed obedience.

6. What makes it hard to stay faithful when nothing seems to be changing?

Follow-up: What promise in this passage helps you persevere?

Leader note: Watchfulness can look ordinary. Do not equate emotional intensity with spiritual readiness.

HANDS

Put the passage into practice

7. What responsibility has God already given you that needs more attention?

Follow-up: What would giving it more attention look like this week?

Leader note: Use the servants' assigned work as a starting point for a realistic response.

8. What have you been putting off that you should address?

Follow-up: Who could help you follow through?

Leader note: Choose a concrete act of obedience rather than a prediction about when Jesus will return.

Close in prayer

Thank Jesus that his words are dependable. Ask for hopeful patience, alert hearts, and faithfulness in the work he has given us.