Asking for a Friend.

Groups Discussion Guide - September 20, 2020

This week, Pastor Jared continued the conversation about how the difficult days we are experiencing may be an indication of the end times. While we can be confident that the tribulation hasn't started, we can clearly see that the spirit of the antichrist is here. It's important for us as believers to recognize these spirits so we will not be defeated by them. 1 Thessalonians 4 and 5 provide us with an end times "check list" so we can "run faster than the horses." Last week we discussed the first four, and this week, we covered the other five. The fifth thing we need to do is run with prayer. We need to call on the Lord, knowing prayer should be our first response not our last resort. Next, we need to run with gratitude. This is keeping the mindset that what we have is more than enough. Then, we need to run with discernment. We need to stay in tune with the Holy Spirit, which means going through life looking up, not around. Next, we need to run with wisdom, which is the ability to apply knowledge. Finally, we need to run with vision. God created each of us for a purpose. We don't just need something to live on, we need something to live for! If we prepare ourselves to run with prayer, gratitude, discernment, wisdom, and vision, we will be able to run faster than the horses.

TALK ABOUT IT

- 1. Of these five ways we can prepare ourselves to run with the horses, which do you need to develop the most? What is one practical way to grow in this area?
- 2. Do you believe that you are created for a purpose? What does "running with vision" mean for you in your life?
- 3. How does knowing about the four horses described in Revelation change your perspective on the days we're living in?

ACT ON IT

Along with your "check list" items, intentionally give God 15 minutes of each day this week. Spend five minutes in God's Word, five minutes in prayer, and five minutes in worship.

PRAY ABOUT IT

"Jesus, thank You for being with me so I can discern the spirit of the end times and run my race well. Help me be prepared to run with prayer, gratitude, discernment, wisdom, and vision. Thank You for setting me apart, giving me peace, and equipping me to run with the horses."