LIFE Group Sermon Discussion Guide
Sermon: The Beginning of the End
Passage: Matthew 24:1-28
Pastor Brad Wetherell
November 1, 2026

THE ORCHARD

Sermon Outline

I. Five realities of life in a fallen world
1. False messiahs
2. International turmoil
3. Natural disasters
4. Persecution
5. Apostasy

II. Three reasons for resilient hope
1. The advance of the gospel
2. The endurance of God's people
3. The coming of Christ

Suggested Memory Verse:
Matthew 24:13
"But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

Review of Last Week:
Have the group share how they applied last week's sermon.
- "You said you would _____. How did that go?"
- "What did God do in your life this week through your obedience?"

RECAP Questions – Read, Engage, Connect, Apply, & Pray

1. Read the Word
Main Question: What is the passage from this week's sermon?

2. Engage the Word
- Main Question: What was something in this passage that stood out to you?

- Additional Follow-up Questions:
  - How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the passage?
  - What other Bible verses came to your mind that speak into this passage?
  - What does this passage reveal about God? About mankind?
  - In your own words, how would you summarize the passage?
  - Is there anything you didn't understand?
- Main Question: How does this passage point to or reflect Jesus Christ?

- Additional Follow-up Questions:
  - Does Jesus fulfill something in this passage?

- Is there a problem in this passage that Jesus has overcome?
- How does Jesus bring future hope to this passage?

3. Connect the Word:

- Main Question: How does this passage connect to our lives right now?

- Additional Follow-up Questions:
  - Is there something in this passage that is similar or different from what we are experiencing?
  - How does this passage connect to your personal life circumstances?
  - How does this passage connect to our life as the church?
  - How does this passage connect to our lost world?

4. Apply the Word:

- Main Question: Is there a promise for you to believe, a command to obey, a warning to heed, an example to follow, or a sin to confess?

- Additional Follow-up Questions:
  - In one or two sentences, what is the next practical step(s) you will take going forward this week?
  - What truth about God and His gospel will motivate your application this week?
  - How can we as a LIFE Group help you, root for you, or hold you accountable?

5. Pray the Word:

- Main Question: Ask God for the power to comprehend and obey all that He has revealed in His preached Word this week.

- Additional Follow-up Questions:
  - What did we learn in this passage that makes us want to praise and thank God?
  - What sin in this passage do we need to confess to God?
  - What help or hope in this passage do we need to ask of God?

Resolve

After you close in prayer, take some time to solidify your group's plan for application of the Word and prayer for each other throughout the week ahead.