

2026-04-19 Small Group Guide

Small Group Guide: "Paul Revere's Warning - Are We Prepared?"

Opening Prayer & Ice Breaker

Ice Breaker: Share about a time when someone gave you a warning that you either heeded or ignored. What was the result?

Sermon Summary

This sermon draws parallels between Paul Revere's midnight ride warning colonists of danger and God's consistent pattern throughout Scripture of warning His people before judgment. Using the story of the four lepers in 2 Kings 6-7 and passages from Revelation, the message challenges believers to examine whether we're keeping the good news to ourselves and living in comfortable compromise rather than faithful obedience to God.

Key Scripture Passages

2 Kings 6:24-7:20 - The siege of Samaria and the four lepers

2 Kings 7:9 - "This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves"

Matthew 6:25-33 - Don't worry; seek first God's kingdom

Romans 12:1-2 - Be transformed, not conformed

Revelation 19:8, 11-16 - Christ's return and the army of heaven

Revelation 20:11-15 - The great white throne judgment

Revelation 21:6-8 - Overcomers and those excluded from eternal life

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Message

The Pattern of Provision: How did the sermon describe God's pattern of provision throughout Israel's history? What conditions were attached to His blessings?

The Leper's Conviction: In 2 Kings 7:9, the lepers said, "This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves." How does this apply to Christians today regarding the gospel?

Two Kingdoms, Two Kings: The sermon contrasted living under God's kingship versus human authority. What does it practically look like to have God as King in your daily life?

Personal Reflection

Worry vs. Trust: The sermon referenced the comedian's "two things to worry about" and Jesus' teaching on worry. What areas of your life reveal that you're trusting yourself more than God's provision?

Conforming vs. Transforming: Romans 12:1-2 calls us to transformation, not conformation. In what ways have you conformed to the world's pattern rather than being transformed by God's Word?

The Cowardly: Revelation 21:8 lists "the cowardly" among those excluded from eternal life. When have you remained silent about your faith when you should have spoken up? What held you back?

Application & Action

Cleaning Out the Land: The sermon mentioned how Israel failed to completely drive out their enemies, leading to future compromise. What "enemies" (sins, habits, influences) have you allowed to remain in your life that need to be removed?

Fine Linen: Revelation 19:8 says the fine linen represents "the righteous acts of the saints." What righteous acts is God calling you to that would "dress" you appropriately as part of Christ's bride?

Sharing the Good News: If you were one of the four lepers who discovered abundant provision, who in your life needs to hear about God's provision through Jesus Christ?

Key Takeaways

God is our Provider, not government, not ourselves - Throughout Scripture, God demonstrates that He alone sustains and provides for His people when they trust and obey Him.

Warnings are acts of love - God consistently warns before judgment because He desires repentance, not destruction.

We're keeping good news to ourselves - Many Christians have experienced God's salvation but fail to share it with others who are spiritually starving.

Compromise leads to captivity - Just as Israel's failure to completely obey God led to siege and famine, our spiritual compromises lead to bondage.

Preparation matters - Christ's return is certain; living in anticipation of His coming should shape our daily choices and priorities.

Righteousness is our wedding garment - Our eternal destiny and our present witness depend on righteous living, not just mental assent to doctrine.

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose one of the following to implement this week:

Option 1 - Spiritual Inventory:

Set aside 30 minutes for honest prayer asking God: "What areas of compromise exist in my life that I've been ignoring?"

Write down what God reveals and create a specific plan to address one area.

Option 2 - Share the Good News:

Identify one person in your life who needs to hear the gospel.

Pray daily for them and look for an opportunity to share what Christ has

done for you.

Invite them to church, coffee, or simply share your testimony.

Option 3 - Righteous Acts Audit:

Examine your weekly schedule. What percentage is devoted to serving God versus serving yourself?

Add one specific "righteous act" to your calendar this week (serving someone, giving sacrificially, speaking truth in love, etc.).

Option 4 - Worry Replacement:

Each time you catch yourself worrying this week, immediately turn it into a prayer of trust.

Keep a journal noting what you were worried about and how you chose to trust God instead.

Memory Verse

2 Kings 7:9 - "Then they said to each other, 'What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves.'"

Closing Reflection Questions

What is one specific way God spoke to you through this sermon?

What will you do differently this week because of what you learned?

How can this group pray for you as you apply this message?

Closing Prayer Points

Pray for courage to speak truth and share the gospel

Pray for revelation of areas of compromise in our lives

Pray for America and the church to return to God as King

Pray for readiness for Christ's return

Pray for specific people each member wants to reach with the gospel

Leader Notes

Tone: This sermon has strong prophetic warnings. Balance conviction with grace, allowing the Holy Spirit to do the convicting work.

Sensitivity: Some may struggle with the "cowardly" label or feel condemned.

Emphasize God's desire for repentance and transformation, not

condemnation.

Historical Context: If needed, briefly explain the Pilgrims' desire for religious freedom and how America was founded on biblical principles.

Follow-up: Consider checking in mid-week with group members about their chosen practical application.

"The question isn't whether warnings are coming—it's whether we're listening and responding while there's still time."