

**“What Time Is It?”
(Romans 13:11-14)**

After exhorting us to surrender to the Lord (12:1-2) and show love to others (12:3-13:10), Paul now presents a powerful motivation. Romans 13:11-14 is an appeal to action based on the lateness of the hour. We don't have much time left before the Lord returns, so it is. . .

Time to Wake Up! (11 – 12a)

- Because of **the Opportunity** (11a)
- Because of **the Urgency** (11b-12a)

Time to Clean Up! (12-13)

- A **Decisive** Cleaning (12b)
- A **Deep** Cleaning (13)

Time to Grow Up! (14)

- What **to Do** (14a)
- What **NOT to Do** (14b)

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Small Group/Family Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: What is the earliest time for which you remember setting an alarm clock? What was the occasion that called for rising so early?

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be spiritually “asleep”?
2. How can the soon return of the Lord be a motivator for us?
3. In light of Christ's soon return, what urgent work does God call us to do in verses 12-13? Why does Paul focus on the sins listed in v.13?
4. Practically speaking, how does a person “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” when temptation hits?

Small Group Prayer

Each person include a prayer asking God to help them “wake up” and take action in light of the Lord's soon return.

Digging Deeper

1. How do each of these passages about the coming of the Lord motivate us to holy living? Phil 4:4-7; 1 Thes 5:4-8; Tit 2:11-13; Heb 10:24-25; Jas 5:7-9; 1 Pet 4:7-11; 2 Pet 3:11-14 and 1 Jn 3:2-3.
2. Rom.13:12 tells us to “cast off” the works of darkness. Make a list of what other verses tell us to “cast off” (put off, lay aside, etc...). Eph 4:22-24; Col 3:8-10; Heb 12:1; Jas 1:21; 1 Pet 2:1-2 and Rom 13:12-14. Review your list and ask God to help you to “cast off” these things from your life.
3. Note the contrast between light and darkness in the following passages. 2 Cor 6:14-15; Eph 5:8-14; Col 1:12-13; 1 Thes 5:4-8; 1 Pet 2:9; 1 Jn 1:5; 2:8-11 and Is 60:1-3. Purpose before God to come out of the darkness and walk in the light.