

GO DEEPER: LIVING READY, NOT AFRAID

A Reflection Guide for "Is the Rapture Coming Today?"

INTRODUCTION

In this episode of Making Sense of Faith, Adam Hamilton addresses one of Christianity's most debated topics—the Second Coming of Christ and the concept of the rapture. Rather than getting lost in charts and timelines, Adam invites us to focus on what really matters: living with hope, not fear, and being ready to meet Christ whether that's today, decades from now, or at our own death. Use this guide to explore how these timeless truths can transform your daily life and perspective on the future.

3 REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a moment to consider what stood out to you most from this episode:

1. Adam shares how end-times fear influenced major life decisions in his youth, including getting married right out of high school. How have fears about the future—spiritual or otherwise—shaped significant decisions in your own life?
 2. Think about Adam's three key messages from Scripture about Christ's return: this broken world won't continue forever, we have eternal hope, and we should live ready. Which of these three resonates most with your current life circumstances, and why?
 3. Adam mentions that Christ will return for each of us individually—"sometime in the next 45 years" for him. How does personalizing the reality of mortality and eternity change how you think about your daily priorities and relationships?
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2 KEY INSIGHTS

1. True readiness comes from trust, not fear

"The aim is every day to try to be ready. And what does that look like to be ready? First, it means I trust in Christ. I've committed my life to him. I belong to you, Lord and I'm yours. Do with me whatever you want. And every day, my prayer is, please use me to do your work and to live a life that's pleasing to you."

Question: What would change in your daily routine if you truly believed that being "ready" was about trusting Christ rather than having all the answers?

Reflection: Consider how fear-based religion often focuses on avoiding punishment, while trust-based faith focuses on relationship and service. Adam's approach shifts the conversation from "What if I'm not good enough?" to "How can I serve today?"

2. Hope transforms how we handle life's uncertainties

"No matter how hard life is, no matter what happens in the world around us, this is not our permanent home. And this is not how things will always be, that God will make all things right in the end."

Question: How might this eternal perspective change the way you respond to current challenges, disappointments, or injustices you're facing?

Reflection: This isn't about escapism or ignoring real problems, but about maintaining hope that gives us strength to persevere and work for good even when circumstances seem overwhelming.

1 PRACTICE EXERCISE

The Daily Readiness Check

Each evening this week, spend 5 minutes reflecting on these three questions:

1. **Trust:** Did I live today as someone who belongs to Christ, or was I driven primarily by fear and anxiety?
2. **Hope:** When I encountered difficulty or discouragement today, did I remember that "this is not how things will always be"?
3. **Love:** Did I "try to walk in the light" by showing love and seeking to serve others, even in small ways?

End each reflection by saying: "Tomorrow, help me live ready—not because I'm afraid, but because I trust you and want to serve your purposes."

QUOTES TO CONSIDER

"If you're doing that [trusting Christ and walking in love], you don't have to be afraid. You don't even have to worry. You don't have to worry about charts and times, or if somebody says he's coming tomorrow, you just know I belong to him and when he comes, that's gonna be okay."

"We are people of hope. We are people of hope."

"The key point of this teaching about the second coming of Christ... The first is, no matter how hard life is, no matter what happens, the world around us, this is not our permanent home."

CLOSING REFLECTION

Living ready doesn't require perfect theology or precise predictions about the future. It simply means trusting Christ with your life today and choosing hope over fear, love over anxiety. As you continue your faith journey, remember that your questions and doubts are normal parts of the process. The goal isn't certainty about timelines—it's confidence in the One who holds both time and eternity in His hands.

This reflection guide was created to accompany the Making Sense of Faith podcast episode "Is the Rapture Coming Today?" For more resources like this, visit makingsenseoffaith.com.