



## **Week 8 | Rise | April 23**

### **Key Focus: Christ's Return.**

#### **Opening Up:**

- If you were famous, what would you be famous for?
- If you had a boat, what would you name it?
- If you could pick a TV show to be your life, what show would it be?
- If your best friend picked a tattoo for you to get, what would he/she pick?
- If you wrote a book, what would it be called?
- If you could live any historical figure's life, which one would you choose?

#### **Reference: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

#### **Discuss:**

1. Soren Kierkegaard in his parable of the ducks highlights what can be a huge gap between what the church celebrates on Sunday and how it lives out the Good News Monday-Saturday. What might contribute to that gap? Does that gap exist at New City? What can we do to guard against it?
2. Rodger mentioned the self-imposed curse of earn this; the idea that we try to earn the gift of grace God gives freely to us. Has this "curse" had any impact on your own life? Why do we so often try to bear the weight of Christ's sacrifice ourselves?
3. If we are living into the Kingdom now, then when the Kingdom comes in its fullness, we won't be surprised (1 Thess 5:4-5). In what ways do we practice living out the Kingdom in our daily lives? What habits/practices from our time in the dark do we sometimes try to bring with us into the light?
4. Pray