



## #2 – WHAT TIME IS IT?

*Prepare ye, prepare ye for that  
which is to come, for the Lord is nigh.  
The great and dreadful day  
of the Lord is near, even at the doors.  
D&C 1:12; 110:16.*

**PURPOSE:** It's important that we prepare temporally as well as spiritually for the second coming.

**SONG:** "I Want to Live the Gospel," CS 148

**LESSON:** Discuss the following situations:

- Your math teacher gives you a surprise test. You've had no warning and no chance to study. The teacher tells you this is an important test and your final grade will be affected by how well you do. How do you feel?
- You are sitting in church and, without warning, the person conducting call on you to come up to the pulpit and give a 5-minute talk. Are you prepared to give a talk? How do you feel?
- You are home alone at night and the lights go out because of a rain storm. You know where the candles, oil lamps, and matches are, and how to light them. Even though you are alone, how do you feel?

Emphasize the difference in how you feel when you are not prepared for an event as to when you know what's going to happen and can prepare for it.

**Jesus has told us of a great even that is going to take place on the earth. It may happen while we are alive. It will be both frightening and exciting.**

Read D&C 1:12 to find out what the even is. The even is Jesus coming to earth.

- How do we know for sure this will happen? (Because Jesus has said he is coming many times in the scriptures.)
- Why will it be frightening?
- Why will it be exciting?
- What does the word NIGH mean? Nigh means "near."

**Tell the PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE (D&C 45:37-39; 35:16).**

The parable of the fig tree says that when we see the fig tree sprouting leaves, we know summer is near. Likewise, when we see certain signs or events happening, we know the second coming is near.

Except for Heavenly Father, no one knows the exact time when Jesus will come. (Matthew 24:36) However, we have been given signs, or told of specific events, that are going to take place before he comes. These signs are found in the scriptures and are given to us so we can be prepared.

Get a small bare tree limb. Secure the limb in a pot. Cut out paper leaves to represent signs of the times; write key words on the leaves to indicate what the signs are (see suggestions below or use your own thoughts). Punch a hole in the top of the leaves. Put the leaves in a basket. Have family

members take turns drawing a leaf from the basket. What sign or event does the leaf represent? If the event has taken place or is presently happening, tie the leaf to the tree with yarn. If the event hasn't yet happened, hold on to the leaf.

To prepare you may want to read the following scriptures: Isaiah 29:14, 18; Matthew 24:3-8,10-14,37-39; Malachi 4:1,5-6; 2 Timothy 3:1-5,7; D&C 27:5-13; 45:26-30, 33; 3 Nephi 21:9.

---

A MARVELOUS WORK	The Book of Mormon comes forth, gospel is restored
BOOK NOT TRUE	People do not believe the Book of Mormon is true
WARS	There are wars and rumors of war, countries fight each other
INIQUITY	Wickedness is everywhere, people are unholy
LOVE WAX COLD	Instead of love, people quarrel and destroy each other
FALSE PROPHETS	There are false prophets and false churches
FAMINES	There are famines and droughts, people are hungry
PESTILENCES	People suffer from diseases
NOAH'S TIME	Like in Noah's time the people don't believe the signs
EARTHQUAKES	Earthquakes and other disasters occur in various places
MISSIONARY WORK	The gospel is preached to all the world
SPIRIT OF ELIJAH	People do genealogy work
KNOWLEDGE	Knowledge increases, but people still don't believe in God
PRIESTHOOD	The priesthood is restored
FIRE	The earth is destroyed by fire
DISOBEDIENT	Children are not obedient to their parents
UNTHANKFUL	People do not show gratitude, are not thankful
LOVE PLEASURE	People love pleasure more than they love God

---

Remind your family that these are just a few of the many signs talked about in the scriptures, but it is evident that the fig tree is blooming and we are approaching summer or the time of the second coming. Stress the importance of your family being prepared both spiritually and temporally for Christ's coming and the importance of living each day the best you can.