



## **We > Me - Week Five**

*People Get Ready*

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

*Together we are able to face an uncertain future.*

***In this series—answering the question: “Does Church Still Matter?”***

*Today: A “We” focused community faces uncertainty together...*

*Unchurched people need to see something more...*

### ***Harold Camping - The Rapture of 2011***

*COVID & Politics - brought it's own set of “prophets”*

*When it feels like the end of the world... is it?*

### ***What Happens When Christians Get This Wrong?***

*Apathy to Environmental Issues*

*Apathy to Injustice, Social Ills*

*Apathy to creating welcoming communities*

***“We” focused communities of faith have a different approach...***

## **TOGETHER WE ARE ABLE TO FACE AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE**

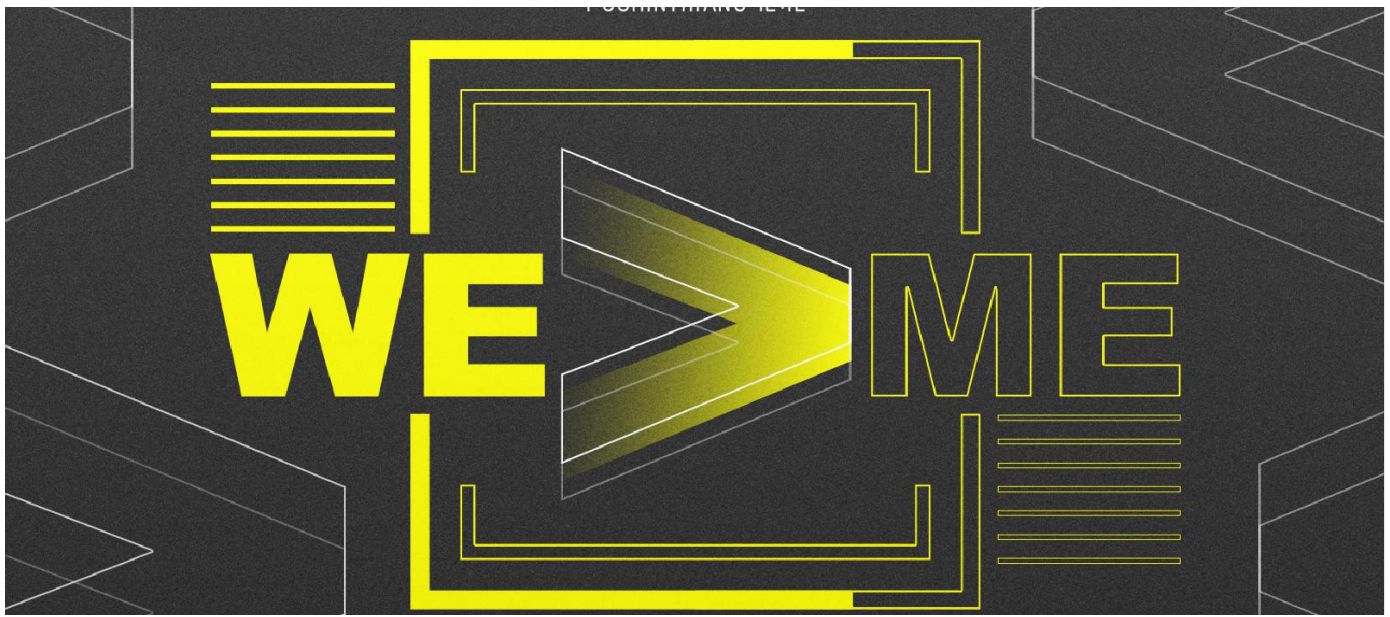
### ***1 Thessalonians 5:1-11***

- *Background of this letter—Thessalonica: A thoroughly Roman city*
  - *People had stopped working, spent the day in prayer, disengaged from culture.*
  - *“Peace and Safety” on the Roman coins—Pax Romana*
  - *The meaning of apocalyptic imagery—no need to decode, not a prediction*
  - *The day of the Lord is always arriving—Christ is always returning.*
  - *These people were missing the point—Paul is calling them to faithfulness*
- Paul wanted the Church to be a community of people who were facing the uncertainties of life together in faith and hope.***

### ***What Can We Do To Become That Kind of “We?”***

- *When We > Me: We live in tension between the “now” and “not yet”.*
- *When We > Me: We are heavenly minded AND earthly good.*
- *When We > Me: We face uncertainty with courage and hope.*

## **TOGETHER WE ARE ABLE TO FACE AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE**



## SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

### **FOR FURTHER READING:**

***Deep & Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love To Attend***  
*Andy Stanley*

***Why Nobody Wants To Go To Church Anymore***  
*Thom and Joanie Schultz*

***Seculosity: How Career, Parenting, Technology, Food Politics and Romance  
Became Our New Religion and What To Do About It***  
*David Zahl*

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*The daily devotionals will be posted on Pastor Leon’s blog, linked on his Tumblr account, the church’s Facebook Page and Twitter.*