CONNECT Group study questions for Feb. 17, 2019 Title: "The Rise and Fall of Empires"

1. Most Christians throughout the centuries have believed that Jesus was returning soon, and Daniel 7 has played an important role in their predictions of the near future.

- How can we both learn both from earlier generations and from the book of Daniel as we think about the end times?

2. Daniel's visions are clear that there will be great judgment by God in the end times. -How should we as Christians respond to the knowledge that one day God will judge the whole world in a very spectacular way?

- What are some of the best ways we can act on that knowledge?

3. At the end of the sermon Pastor Peppy offered us 6 things to watch for as we near the end of this age:

- 1. A rise in spiritual counterfeits and false Christs.
- 2. Be on the alert for a leader who wants to bring the world together.
- 3. Look for more bloodshed and more violence among the nations.
- 4. Look for increasing hostility to Christians and the gospel message.
- 5. Look for a massive rejection of traditional morality.
- 6. Watch out for the apparent victory of evil.

This list can be overwhelming and lead people in various different directions.

- What sort of feelings or thoughts does list conjure up for you?

Peppy followed this list with challenging us with the application of being faithful to our mission. Whatever feelings or thoughts we have about the future we should use this as an opportunity to refocus on our faith.

- How can this list be a catalyst to encourage growing in our faith?

- What sort of practical steps can we take to refocus our efforts to "Know Christ...?"

- Why do we often hear a sermon that inspires us to make changes and then do nothing about it?

- What steps can we take to ensure more success despite our usual excuses?