

PAUL TO A "T" 2 THESSALONIANS 1

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on New International Version (NIV) 1984 edition.

Lesson 8 • 2 Thessalonians 1 • November 16, 2011

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of I Thessalonians 5:12-28 was helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5

2. Notice the similarities between 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3 and 2 Thessalonians 1:1-3. What insight can you draw from this comparison?
3. According to **V3**, why should the writers always thank God?
4. **V5** begins, "All this is evidence..." What is this evidence in **V3-4**?
5. a) For what "evidence" of faith in another believer's life are you thankful?

b) What "evidence" of faith have you seen in your own life lately?

SECTION II: Read 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

6. a) Read **V5-9** and summarize in your own words.

6. b) What do you think “God’s judgment is right” means based on those verses?

7. **V6** says, “God is just.” When will God’s justice happen according to **V7**?

8. What might be the reason why the author tells the readers when God’s final justice will happen?

9. Who will be punished?

10. How will they be punished?

11. What thoughts and/or actions do **V8-9** evoke in you?

12. Define the word “glorified” using a dictionary. What are possible ways Jesus will be “glorified in His holy people?”

13. Define the word “marveled.” Describe how believers might marvel at Jesus on the day He comes?

SECTION III: Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

14. How do the writers pray for the Thessalonians in **V11-12**, and why do they pray?

15. The phrase “count you worthy” is repeated twice in this passage (**V5, V11**). Process its possible significance.

16. What hope does **V11b** give you in your desire to fulfill the purposes He has for your life?

17. List some of the attributes of God in Chapter 1.

18. Personalize **V11-12** and commit to pray for yourself and others.

DIGGING DEEPER

The subject of “faith” has been a repeated one in 1 and 2 Thessalonians. (It’s mentioned 13 times.) Paul, Silas, and Timothy gave much attention to caring for the Thessalonians’ faith. “Faith” is a word that is used a lot in our culture, but it’s not necessarily easy to grasp. The following questions are designed to help you process different aspects of faith.

1. How does Hebrews 11:1 define faith?

2. How important is faith to God? Read Hebrews 11:6.

3. What do Romans 1:17 and 3:21-23, 27-28 teach about “works” versus “faith?”

4. What is the definition of a “dead faith” according to James 2:14-17, (especially **V17**)?

5. How do you make sense of the seeming contradictions regarding “faith” and “actions” brought out in Questions 3 and 4 above?

