

# Sermon-Based Community Life Group Study

// November 21, 2021 //

Our desire and goal is for all who call Century Baptist their church home to be involved in a community life group, Bible study or missional community. We believe one of the best ways to be fed and exhorted in our faith is to interact with the Sunday sermon. This guide is a tool to facilitate that interaction.

The purpose of this guide is for all groups, studies and communities to dive into the Sunday message through the study of Scripture together. If you are not in a group, we encourage you to take the step of involvement in community around your faith and the pursuit of faith in Jesus. This study guide can be used individually, however, the greatest benefit of growth in Scripture and faith comes when people are interacting together around Biblical truth and how God is at work in their lives.

Contact Pastor Paul Herr at 223-0478 to learn more about sermon-based community life groups, missional communities, or leading and/or hosting a group.

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## OPENING UP

Share about a time you really, really didn't feel like doing a project or chore, but you did it anyway. How did you feel afterward?

## INTRO TO 2 THESSALONIANS

This letter from the apostle Paul was probably written shortly after his first letter to the church in Thessalonica. He had been boasting of them to other churches, telling of their faith and their love for each other in the face of persecution. Paul reminded them that God will repay their persecutors. He also addressed two recurring problems in this church. First, they were concerned that the Lord had already returned. Paul urged them not to become "shaken in mind or alarmed," fearing that "the day of the Lord" (2:2) had already come. Second, he admonished them not to be idle, commanding them that, "If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat" (3:10).

(The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (2 Th). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.)

## Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12

What was one point or statement from the message that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Based on the context of the previous paragraph (2 Thessalonians 3:1-5), how does the Apostle Paul's tone change in verse 3:6?

What specific warning does Paul give to the church?

Describe how Paul uses his own personal story to support his command. (3:7-9)

How are Paul's words in his first letter to the Thessalonians echoed here in verses 3:7-9? (1 Thess 1:5, 2:6, 2:9-10)

Describe the person Paul condemns in verse 3:10.

According to the following passages, how does Paul's strong condemnation in verse 3:10 differ from how the church should treat those who are truly needy?

Acts 24:17

Romans 15:25-28

1 Corinthians 16:1-3

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

1 Timothy 5:9-10

In 2 Thessalonians 3:11, how does Paul describe a busybody?

How does 1 Timothy 5:11-13 help expand Paul's definition of a busybody?

What is the antidote to being a busybody as described by Paul in 2 Thessalonians 3:12?

How does 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 give us more background into how Paul commands that people avoid being a busybody?

In what way does Ephesians 4:28 and Colossians 3:23 explain the biblical principle of work?

## **GOSPEL CONNECTION**

The Gospel never promotes idleness. According to Ephesians 2:8-10, we are not saved by good works, but are saved for good works. There is much work to be done in the kingdom of God. Jesus talked about the need for workers for the harvest. Being saved by grace is the beginning of a life of humble service to Jesus and of hard work in His kingdom.

## **APPLICATION**

It can be a challenge to keep your heart pure when doing good things for the service of Jesus. Colossians 3:22-24 gives clear principles to not do things for the praise of people, but to work for the Lord. The best reward comes from Him. The means to that reward is caring more about what He thinks of our work than what others do. Remember this principle as you serve Him this week and see if God exposes any motives that need addressing.

## **PRAYER**

My gracious heavenly Father, I give You thanks for Your abundant grace that You pour out on me every day. Thank You for saving me and giving me a purpose in Your kingdom. Help me to care most about what You think about my service to You, and to be a good example to those around me.

## **MEMORY VERSE**

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:23-24 (ESV)

# **Sermon-Based Study Guide**

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Sermon Series:  
Whoa

Paul Nather  
Century Baptist Church

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## **Giddyup**

*2 Thessalonians 3:6-12*

1. Measure Up

2. Stand Up

3. Pony Up