



1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 | Prayer that Perseveres, Love that Overflows | 11.9.25

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. ⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸ For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. ⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

→ Your **faithfulness** in **trials** strengthens others (**vs 6-7**)

→ God hears sincere prayer, even when the answer is **delayed** or **different** than we expect (**vs 10**)

Psalm 34:15 *The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their cry.*

→ Christians should be marked by an extraordinary, peculiar love and an evident **obedience** to God (**vs 11-13**)

Matthew 5:44 *But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you*

Philippians 1:9-10 *And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,*

Ephesians 1:4 *just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,*

"If a man's love is directed toward God, his life will reflect that goodness." – Thomas Tuke

→ The return of Christ is our **anchor** and **motivation**

1 Peter 1:3-9 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

Upcoming Events at Grace

November 9-December 14 – Foster Care Christmas Outreach - This Christmas, we are partnering with Focus on Youth, a local foster care ministry, to help children and teens in the foster care system. Shopping as a family is a wonderful way to demonstrate Christlike care for others during the Christmas Season. Stop by the Christmas tree at the Family Ministry Corner to participate. Please return all bags by December 14th.

Christmas Decorating at Grace – Ladies, help us Deck the Halls of Grace. We plan to meet after the service on **Sunday, November 23**. Lunch will be provided. No special decorating skills needed, just show up and we will find a job for you! Help us get our church ready for the Christmas season! Sign up on the sheet outside the gym or with the QR code.



December 6 – Ladies Christmas Tea – Women of Grace, you are invited to attend our 30th annual Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 6, at 10:30am. We have over 40 tables this year, with many hostesses still looking for friends to fill their seats – we want YOU to join us! Visit us at the Tea table in the lobby or click the QR code to get your tickets. Note: the link to purchase tickets will open on Nov. 9 at 8am. Tickets will sell out, so don't delay!



Sundays, December 21 & 28, 2025 – Family Christmas & New Year's Services

Tanzania Missions Trip – June 4-14, 2026 - Our next missions trip to Tanzania is coming up in June of 2026. This will be a working trip as we help the team at the new Grace Missions ministry property. This includes some construction-type work, organizing/updating the property to get it ready for ministry use, and serving the local missionary team and community in practical ways. We're looking forward to rolling up our sleeves and contributing to what God is doing there. We will announce an information meeting where you can come and hear all the details—please reserve your questions for the meeting, where we will share everything you need to know. If you would like to learn more, click the QR code.

