



Building Fund



Digital Bulletin

2 Thessalonians 2 | Paul's Prayer Request & Closing Prayer | 3.22.26

Big Idea: The letters from Paul to the Thessalonian congregation may be 2,000 years old, but upon reading them, you would think they were written last month. They are filled with encouragement, correction, and instruction. A common theme in the letters is prayer and faithfulness, regardless of what others do or don't do, and regardless of your circumstances, because God's grace is available and sufficient!

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 Finally, brethren, **pray for us**, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

Paul's Prayer Requests

1. That God's Word would quickly bring results and be glorified.
2. That the church planters would be rescued from unreasonable and wicked men.

Matthew 13:19-23 When anyone hears the word (logos – message) of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the **wicked one** comes and **snatches away** what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. ²⁰ But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For **when tribulation** or **persecution** arises **because of the word**, immediately he stumbles. ²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the **cares of this world** and the **deceitfulness of riches** choke the word, and he **becomes unfruitful**. ²³ But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

- Be careful, Christian, how you share wounds; they are still tender and painful. Allow **wounds** to **heal**, then share your story when necessary and appropriate.

2 Thessalonians 3:3-12 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. ⁵ Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ. ⁶ But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly (irresponsibly) and not according to the tradition which he received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; ⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, ⁹ not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. ¹¹ For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. ¹² Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

- When you combine the reality of **spiritual warfare** with the **depraved nature** within each of us, then Paul's prayer for the effectiveness of Scripture makes more sense.

2 Thessalonians 3:13-15 *But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good. ¹⁴ And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. ¹⁵ Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.*

- **Guilt** is what we deal with alone, secretly.
- **Shame** is when our sin goes public.

Proverbs 28:13 *He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.*

1 John 1:9-21:2 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.^{2:1} My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.*

- **Forgiveness in Christ** overshadows both guilt and shame! Praise GOD!

2 Thessalonians 3:16-17 *Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all. ¹⁷ The salutation of Paul with my own hand, (not dictated) which is a sign in every epistle; so I write. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

- Anyone who remains faithful in following Christ knows it is the **grace of GOD** that enables and sustains them.
- Our good works don't repay GOD. Any good works we do, we borrow from GOD's grace to do them, making us even a greater debtor to the grace of GOD!

Philippians 2:12-13 *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.*

3.29.26 Palm Sunday Communion Service @ 9:15

*Membership Overview Meeting (members only) 4:30 in the Chapel

*Pizza with the Pastors (guests very welcome) 5:00-6:30 in the gym; sign up today! →→



4.3.26 Good Friday Family Service 7pm

4.5.26 Easter; Resurrection Sunday Family Service 10:30am (no 9:15)