



2 Thessalonians

Week 30

March 23, 2014

Stay the Course

Daily Verses

Sunday: 2 Thes 1:1-4
Monday: 2 Thes 1:5-12
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-12
Wednesday: 2 Thes 2:13-17
Thursday: 2 Thes 3:1-5
Friday: 2 Thes 3:6-17
Saturday: Catch Up/Free Day

Key Verse:

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all."

2 Thes 3:16

get daily scripture texts!

text @sherwoodo to 812-671-0028

Daily Devotions

Go to socc.org/sherwood-oaks-blog for daily devotions

Pointing to Jesus

- Jesus told nine advent parables (illustrations about His return): The Faithful Servant, Ten Virgins, Great Banquet, Rich Fool, Wicked Husbandmen, Tares, the Net, Budding Fig Tree, Barren Fig Tree. Jesus knew His second coming would be an important consideration for believers.
- Like Jesus' teaching in His advent parables, Paul simply tells Christians to always be ready. 3:13
- Jesus predicted the coming of those who would be against the Christ (antichrists). (Matt 24:23, Mark 13:21) Jesus warned his followers not to be deceived by them.
- Echoing Jesus, Paul reminds new converts that many will come making Messianic claims, but we should hold fast to the teaching of Jesus and live calm, peaceful lives. 2:15
- Freeloaders dogged Jesus' ministry, dragged the church down in Acts and strained the health of the Christian community. Paul like Jesus and Luke, challenged those who thought Christianity was a free ride.

Questions for Reflection & Conversation

- How does the fact that Paul dictated the body of some of his letters (2Thessalonians 3:17-18, Romans 16:22, Galatians 6:11) to a secretary influence your understanding of inspiration?
- What are some recent failed announcements of the second coming of Jesus that you are aware of? Why do you think people try to predict something that the Bible says is unpredictable?
- Since before AD 60, false prophets have been trying to name the "Man of Sin" of 2 Thess. 2:1-2. Make some guesses as to who has been named and what events indicated "the end" to them.
- How does context limit and influence possible interpretation of the second coming?
- What are some common elements between Thessalonians and Revelation?
- What conditions from Thessalonians have not been fulfilled that prevent the Lord from returning now?

Still have questions you would like answered? Go to socc.org/ask-bible-guy or text 812-329-2315

Family Activity

The book of 2 Thessalonians was written by Paul to the church at Thessalonica. It is the second letter Paul wrote. In it, he talks about Jesus Christ coming back for us. This is a happy thought for those of us who believe in Him, but not everyone was convinced. So, Paul also encourages the church to continue growing in their relationship with Jesus, even when it's not easy. He answers some difficult questions that the people had and asks them to pray for him. Paul tells them to not become tired or weary of doing good so that the good news about Jesus can continue to be spread.

Staying Current with the Series

Missed a part of the Inspired series? You can pick up missed take-home sheets at the Welcome Center or download them at socc.org/inspired/deeper.