

***STUDYING THE BOOK OF 2 THESSALONIANS***  
***IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS***

**Lesson 4 - Request for Prayer - [2 Thessalonians 3:1-5](#)**

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

*Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.*

2TH 3:1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. [2] And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. [3] But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. [4] We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. [5] May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**Lesson 4 - Request for Prayer - [2 Thessalonians 3:1-5](#)**

35. How had the gospel been received by the Thessalonians? ([3:1](#))
36. How did Paul want to see the gospel received? ([3:1](#))
37. What prayer requests did Paul share with the Thessalonians? ([3:1-2](#))
38. What did Paul want? ([3:1-2](#))
39. What type of people were threatening Paul? ([3:2](#))
40. How did Paul describe God? ([3:3](#))
41. What will God do for people who are threatened by the evil one? ([3:3](#))
42. What confidence did Paul have in the Christians at Thessalonica? ([3:4](#))
43. How did Paul remind his readers of the Lord's direction? ([3:5](#))
44. What did Paul want his readers to remember about the Lord? ([3:5](#))
45. How can thinking about Christ's perseverance strengthen our own stand?

**Lesson 5 - Warning Against Idleness - [2 Thessalonians 3:6-18](#)**

2TH 3:6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching\* you

received from us. [7] For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, [8] nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. [9] We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. [10] For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

2TH 3:11 We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. [12] Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. [13] And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

2TH 3:14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. [15] Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

2TH 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

2TH 3:17 I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write.

2TH 3:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Lesson 5 - Warning Against Idleness - [2 Thessalonians 3:6-18](#)**

46. Whom should we avoid? ([3:6](#))
47. What example had Paul set when he was with the church at Thessalonica? ([3:7-8](#))
48. What work habits did Paul display while he was in Thessalonica? ([3:8](#))
49. Why did Paul work so hard and pay for his food? ([3:8-9](#))
50. What rule had Paul given about working and eating? ([3:10](#))
51. What reports had Paul heard about some of the believers in Thessalonica? ([3:11](#))
52. What had some people in Thessalonica become? ([3:11](#))
53. What was Paul's command to the busybodies in Thessalonica? ([3:12](#))
54. What encouragement did Paul give to those he called "brothers"? ([3:13](#))

55. How were the Thessalonians to regard anyone who ignored Paul's instructions? ([3:14-15](#))
56. What should we do with people who do not obey these instructions? ([3:14-15](#))
57. What blessing did Paul invoke on the Thessalonian believers? ([3:16](#))
58. What did Paul do to make his final greeting special? ([3:17](#))
59. How can associating with idle, lazy people influence your work habits?

Bibliography

New International Version  
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