

The Book of 2 Thessalonians

17

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we are looking at the third and final section of **2 Thessalonians – chapter 3** – which can be divided into three subsections:

- Paul's call to prayer - **3:1-5**
- Paul's charge to the idle - **3:6-15**
- Paul's conclusion - **3:16-18**

It appears that there was a continual problem with idleness in the Thessalonian church, for in both his letters Paul specifically targets this sin (see **1 Thessalonians 4:11; 5:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15**)

Read each subsection, answering for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

- What are the two things that Paul asks the Thessalonians to pray for? (**3:1-2**).
- What was the Lord faithful to do? (**3:3**).
- What did Paul have confidence in the Lord about? (**3:4**).
- What did Paul pray that the Lord would direct the hearts of the Thessalonians into? (**3:5**).

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

- What did Paul command the Thessalonians “in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ”? (**3:6**).
- What was the example that Paul had given to the Thessalonians? (**3:7-11**).
- What did Paul command the idle to do? (**3:12**).

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18

- What does Paul call God the Lord of and what would God give them? (**3:16**).
- How does **3:17** relate to **2:1-2**?

Memory Verse

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

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!