

(1:1-2) Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(1:3) We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is only fitting, because your faith is increasing abundantly, and the love of each and every one of you toward one another grows ever greater.

- ✓ Where God's grace is growing, _____ is overflowing.
- ✓ Where God's grace is growing, _____ is overflowing.

(1:4) As a result, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

Some suffering is part of living in a fallen world.

(Romans 8:22-23a) For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. And not only that, but also we ourselves

- 1) Is this part of creation's _____?

Some suffering is the result of bad choices.

(Galatians 6:8) For the one who sows to his own flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

- 2) Am I _____ what I have _____?

Some suffering is the Father's loving discipline.

(Hebrews 12:5) "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are punished by Him; For whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He punishes every son whom He accepts."

- 3) Is God _____ me _____?

Some suffering is a result of faithfully following Christ.

(2 Timothy 3:12) Indeed, all who want to live in a godly way in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

- 4) Am I suffering because I am _____?

(1:5) This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you indeed are suffering.

(1:6-10) For after all it is only right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted, along with us, when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God, and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These people will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes to be glorified among His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—because our testimony to you was believed.

(1:11-12) To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will consider you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, in accordance with the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

"To this end also we pray for you always"

1. Be _____ of the return of Christ.

"that our God will consider you worthy of your calling"

2. _____ your _____ to Honor God and His calling of you.

"and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power"

3. _____ in His power to accomplish this.

"so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, in accordance with the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ."

4. Make _____ your aim.