



**About those Idle Busybodies in the Fellowship
Encouragement to Pray and to Discipline
2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

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Paul is now in the process of wrapping up his second letter to the church in Thessalonica. He has addressed two of the major points he wanted to discuss, but there is still a third issue to discuss that is the result of false teaching being allowed in the church. Paul will deal with doctrinal error introduced from outside the church, and that is still a real issue today. It is the elephant in the room in many churches today. It is uncomfortable to confront but is necessary for the health and well-being of the flock in the church today.



When we get rid of the wolves in sheep's clothing, we must clean up the mess they left too.

Paul has dealt with the issue of false teachers showing up, and that was a tough discussion for those who were busy chasing after and believing the deception. For someone who is under persecution or external pressure of any kind, it is hard to turn from a voice that affirms you even if they are completely wrong.

He still has a hard discussion coming up though. Because of the false teaching that went on, there is the mess left behind. There are some who have decided to stop working and wait for the rapture instead. And their conduct had become a distraction and was impacting the ministry and order in the church.

Doctrinal error concerning the day of the Lord had led to disorderly conduct in the church. Paul dealt with the latter problem forcefully in this section. (Lewis 2006, 37)

But before going there, Paul and the team have some prayer requests. They ask for continued prayer for their ongoing missionary ministry.

2 Thessalonians 3:1–5

“Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it was also with you; and that we will be rescued from troublesome and evil people; for not all have the faith. But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing, and will do, what we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the perseverance of Christ.” (NASB 2020)

When Paul asks for prayer here, he does it using a present tense verb which in the Greek means he is asking for continuous prayer.

We are all engaged in spiritual warfare against the enemy, Satan. His combat operations are identical to those I dealt with in the military. He is on a 24/7 mission to destroy all of us, and he never rests as he looks for that attack vector that will succeed.

The need for prayer is indeed urgent and continuous for all of us but even more so for those engaged in ministry. We covet your prayers for Calvary Chapel as the battle is very real. The enemy does not stop his attacks and he is insidious in how he does it. The attack vectors used always involves deception, there has been no change since Genesis 3 on that. This is why the command earlier to test the spirits. We have this to comfort us though.

1 John 4:2–6

“By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses Jesus as the Christ who has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that refuses to confess Jesus, that spirit is not from God, and this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and now is already in the world. **You are from God, little children, and have conquered them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.** They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world's perspective and the world listens to them. We are from God; the person who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of deceit.” (NET 2nd ed.)

About those fallen angels and demons who are behind the ongoing attacks, **they have no power over us.** None. We tend to not see what is clearly put before us in verse 4. We are in Christ and there is a simple fact which is a direct result of His achievement on the cross.

1 John 4:4

“**You are from God, little children, and have conquered them,** because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.” (NET 2nd ed.)



Let me restate this so we get it. You...have conquered them. When and how did that happen. Well, it is simple, because as believers we are in Christ, that means we are now family.

This is an idea that comes from middle eastern kings and rulers. When a King would take power, he would need trusted people around him in order to get things done the way he wanted them done. This was done through family and extended family members as well as loyal outsiders who had been tested and found to be wholly loyal.

When we come to Christ, we become part of the family. We are brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, who has conquered Satan and the evil ones through His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead.

Hebrews 2:11–15

“For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.” Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.” (ESV)

You and I, in Christ, have conquered and overcome the fallen ones.

This is why it is imperative for us to remain in Christ abiding in Him, filled with the Holy Spirit and fully empowered to do life in Him.

This is a fact we must apprehend and apply daily. Satan and his minions are defeated foes and the only authority they have over us is that which we give them. The Holy Spirit resides in each and every believer and “greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.”

It is this reason why Paul asks for prayer for the team. They as well as anyone engaged in ministry is out there on the front line in the business of storming the gates of hell and taking people from there and changing their eternal destinations.

Paul continues in his request that not only will the fellowship in Thessalonica pray for them, but also, since we know and are convinced that Jesus Christ is returning imminently for His church to take us to be with Him, that the spread of the gospel happen quickly.

He is taking the idea of Psalm 147:15 “He sends his word out over the earth, his command runs swiftly.” (CJB) and is applying it to evangelism.

As the gospel covers the planet, the desire is to see Jesus Christ glorified in the lives of those who believe, repeating what happened when they believed there in Thessalonica.

There is more to this too since Paul also used present tense verbs in the Greek as it is related to evangelism and the glory of Christ. We are to be continually praying for those who are engaged one on one with the enemy, and we are to be continually making it a matter of prayer that the word of God spread s across this planet and keep spreading across this planet causing the continuous glory of Christ to be reflected in the lives of all who believe.

This is a whole lot more than simply praying for missions and missionaries every so often. This is a serious call to become serious full time prayer warriors.



Here at Calvary, we are using technology as much as we can within the confines of the resources the Lord has provided for us. He is the one who has led us into this ministry, and He is the one we continue to follow. We are livestreaming our services, both Sunday and Midweek, every week. Right now, it is in English, and but is available on the internet, You Tube, Facebook, Rumble, two different apps and two different websites.

Not only that, but we podcast Monday through Friday, not just for the benefit of all who go to Calvary to have a source of Bible study during the week, but we have also had it intentionally placed on apps globally. And recently placed them all on You Tube Music too.

Here at Calvary, we are doing what we can in this same ministry that Paul is discussing. We too need continual prayer. We too want to see the gospel spread across this planet, continuously and His name glorified as lives are changed. Please pray for us.

When I became a believer, I wanted to know more and hear more about the Bible. If the church was open, I wanted to be there and that was hard to do in a home with one parent who was saved, and the other was not. Once I became a licensed driver, that became easier for my sister and I, but it was still a struggle. So, I discovered Christian Radio. There was no such thing as on demand teaching then.

Then there were those times at church, where they would bring in a guest speaker who would stand in the pulpit, pound it and yell at us, for at least an hour or more. And that would go on for a week and I really never wanted to be there for any of it, even after I was a believer. That is not how you learn more about the word.

We want to make God's word and teaching about His word freely available and easily obtainable for all of us.

Paul has been clear of his continuing desire to see the gospel go everywhere as quickly as possible. But the team needs prayer for another reason too.

We indeed have the victory over Satan, but there are those that he can still control and direct to get in the way of ministry and block, or at least try to block, what it is the Lord wants to do making life miserable for believers in the process. The people in Thessalonica know all about these people. Yes, as they came to Christ, everything changed for them and it was to the glory of God but then came the persecution as Satan energized those in the community, against them.

Paul asks for prayer also for protection.

2 Thessalonians 3:2

"and that we will be rescued from troublesome and evil people; for not all have the faith." (NASB 2020)

Paul and the team needed deliverance from people like this. For deliverance from persecutors. We also need prayer from you for this as well.

Ken, there's no persecution in this country today. Surely you are wrong about this. I wish I was. All you have to do is start calling real estate agents who represent commercial rental property and tell them you are a church looking for a building to lease. Most simply ghost you and do not return your call...ever. There are those who return your call and upon learning you are a church; the property is possibly already rented. Weird how the negotiations have now gone on for 10 months and no one is in the building.

The lies and duplicity clearly exhibited by various brokers and agents, at peril of their licensure, is simply breathtaking.



We all need prayer today for deliverance from persecution. Paul uses two terms to describe those who engage in persecution. The first word is translated as troublesome. The Greek word is ἀτόπων (atopōn). The word means “unusual, surprising...being behaviorally out of place, evil, wrong, improper.” (Arndt, et al. 2000, 149)

Someone who supposedly represents themselves as unbiased simply trying to find the best client for their principal, but simply not with a church...ever. That is unexpected in our current culture of so-called toleration. There is no toleration for anyone who represents the Lord.

The other word used is translated evil which is the Greek word πονηρῶν (ponerōn). The word means “to being morally or socially worthless, wicked, evil, bad, base, worthless, vicious, degenerate.” (Arndt, et al. 2000, 851)

At the core of this evil is the rejection of the gospel. “Not everyone has faith” is a simple reminder of what Paul has assumed throughout the letter, that many reject the gospel and so oppose the purpose of God in history. (Weatherly 1996, 2 Th 3:2)

The first two verses are simply a request for prayer for two things. The first is for the success of the gospel and the second is for deliverance from evil. Two things we all can agree with.

The takeaway for us is this, do our prayers look like Paul's? Do we pray for the success of the gospel, that God's will be done, and the word of God continue to be successful in changing hearts. We should also pray that we do not fall into temptation but are delivered by the Lord from evil and wickedness so that we can stand firm and persevere. This sounds a whole lot like the model prayer outline that Jesus provided to His disciples.

Matthew 6:9–13

“Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”” (ESV)

Prayer is designed to get us in line with God's plan and God's will and God's kingdom. Prayer puts us in the right place with God. Prayer is not about changing God and his plan. Prayer is about changing us and getting us in line with God's plan and God's will. (Grant Jr. 2011, 192)

As we pray for those who have misused us and persecuted us, do we pray for their salvation? Do we pray that they would repent and turn to Jesus? Do we pray like Paul did, that the Lord would teach them not to do what they are so actively doing to us?

As New Testament believers that is indeed where we should fall as we pray. “Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.” (Romans 13:10, ESV)

To pray that way requires the Holy Spirit because deep inside us, when we are wronged, our flesh wants to lash out and retaliate. How big is our God?

2 Thessalonians 3:3–5

“But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing, and will do, what we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the perseverance of Christ.” (NASB 2020)



Because not all have faith, we can deal with this. But sometimes those who should have faith act like they don't, so who has our back? We all need someone in our corner who is faithful and always has our back. God is faithful, always.

Not only is the Lord faithful, even when we are not, He never fails us. He also, because He is faithful, does two strategic things for us as believers.

"First, He will "establish, fix firmly, establish" them in a solid stability, a well-grounded faithfulness. The coordination of human and divine responsibility emerges when one sees the command to "stand firmly" in 2:15, then this reliance on God enabling a firm commitment. It is the same consistency as Phil. 2:12, "work out your salvation," and then v. 13, "for it is God who works in you to will and to do..." Second, God will "guard" them. The latter word by its vivid image depicts Him as keeping them safe. The word was used of protection by a military detachment or guard detail." (Rosscup 2008, 2407)

When I was recalled to active duty and went to the middle east, we had a very real enemy who did not want anything good for us. There was even a bounty on me because of my job, so I had to figure out how to do life with a personal protection detail.

On base, I was just one of the gun toters in Security Forces. But when I had to leave the base, I had my own detail provided to protect me and drive me from place to place. I refused to sit in the back seat though since that is where the bad guys shoot first. It made me appreciate what it is that Paul is saying the Lord does for us here.

He is our protection detail; the difference though is He is always there. My detail was not always there, but the Lord is. He will never fail to strengthen and protect us. Jesus did pray for God to protect us from the evil one after all.

John 17:15

"I don't ask you to take them out of the world, but to protect them from the Evil One." (CJB)

Jesus' prayer to God, and Paul's confidence in God are in harmony about God's faithfulness to keep. (Rosscup 2008, 2407)

Because God is faithful, and He is keeping the saints from the evil one, even in the midst of persecution, then Paul can be confident about their perseverance. He has seen it.

The believers in Thessalonica have already demonstrated a staying power that reflects genuine faith. They have shown growth and faith, so Paul is now confident that they will continue to follow and do as they have been taught.

Paul finishes off by praying for, interceding for the saints in Thessalonica. In their short time as believers, they have been severely tested, they have even had false teachers show up and try to lead them astray, yet the majority have been faithful and persevered.

He prays that the Lord would "give these brothers and sisters a greater appreciation of God's love for them and of Christ's perseverance in the midst of His earthly afflictions." (Constable 2003, 2 Th 3:5) He wanted them to be firmly established in the Lord. Unshakably so.

If Paul were praying for us today, he would not change his prayer. We too need to be established in the Lord. There are so many things and people trying to attract our attention and drive us off course.



One thing I have heard from many these past few weeks is how it feels, right now, that everything in our culture is in disarray. It has all been skewed one way or another off what you would consider to be true north. In orienteering, one thing you learn very quickly as you move out using your map and compass, is the need for constantly checking where you are in relation to where you were and what the lay of the land tells you. I always found myself coming back to the compass and my map, as well as how far I had walked while out in the middle of nowhere. I wanted to be firmly established in what my compass and map was telling me.

This is no different than what Paul is telling us right here.

All around us, everything is in disarray. We can quickly lose track of the compass heading we took off on and where we are until we arrive at the next waypoint. Many are missing that waypoint these days. Because of a minor deviation, two miles ago, the landmark you expected to find, isn't there. Then you must figure out, all over again, where you are and how to get back on course.

We must be established in Christ. He is our true north and by coming to His word, basically our compass, and letting His word influence us and direct us through the power of His Holy Spirit, we will not deviate from the original heading we took off on.

Proverbs 4:25–27

“Let your eyes look directly forward and your gaze be straight before you. Keep straight the path of your feet, and all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.” (NRSVue)

We must walk in the love of the Lord. That is only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit. Can we love and persevere in our own strength, maybe, but I know I can with Christ.

The thing I learned when in the boonies is this, check and reorient frequently. To be established in Christ, we must do the same.

Romans 12:1–2

“Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a sacrifice—alive, holy, and pleasing to God—which is your reasonable service**. Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God—what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.” (NET 2nd ed.)

How frequently? Constantly and consistently. The tense of the word used in the Greek, translated “present,” describes an action which is continued or repeated.

In other words, as we are established in Christ, we are checking in with Him and closely monitoring ourselves in the light of His word. Easily done with the Holy Spirit enabling and empowering us. Impossible to do in my own power and strength though.

Now it is time for a difficult conversation, at least with some of the body there in Thessalonica. The doctrinal aberrations from the false teaching have produced rotten fruit. They always do.

2 Thessalonians 3:6–10

“Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother or sister who leads a disorderly life and not one in accordance with the tradition which you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined way among you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you; not because



we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a role model for you, so that you would follow our example. For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.” (NASB 2020)

There is a group on the church that has gone too far with the false teaching, to the point that they are now leading disorderly lives. This is not the first time Paul has addressed this group. In his first letter, he did address this group, but their unruliness had not risen to the level it is now.

1 Thessalonians 5:14

“We urge you, brothers and sisters, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.” (NASB 2020)

This group has latched onto the doctrinal error that was taught and are using that as a reason for their current conduct. They have now become a serious problem. First of all, Paul has moved from urging the leadership to say something to now he commands the entire church.

As we see this taking place, it brings me back to the loving need for church discipline. There are indeed times, because we love His people, where the right decision is not allowing someone who is disorderly to serve, even to the degree that we ask them to go elsewhere to a fellowship they may feel more comfortable in.

That is a hard conversation. Here Paul commands the leadership and the people in Thessalonica, since apparently admonishment did not work, to take the next step and stay away from those who are leading a disorderly life. I really like the term Dr. Gordon Fee gives to these folks; he calls them the “disruptive-idle.”

Paul tells the entire community that they are to shun “every believer [Gk. adelphos, ‘brother’] who is idle and disruptive,” people who apparently have paid no attention to the words of correction in the first letter (1 Thess 4:9–12). The basic reason for the “shunning” given here is related to the fact that they have disregarded Paul’s former exhortation. (Fee 2009, 327)

This idle disruptive behavior was not something that was taught by Paul or the team.

Paul expects not just the leaders to deal with the problematic behavior of the rebellious idlers, but the congregation as a whole. Even though the apostle will have a command later in the passage that is directed more narrowly to the guilty members themselves (v. 12), he chooses not only here in the opening command but also throughout this passage to address his commands and supporting arguments to all the church’s members, thereby reminding the congregation of their corporate responsibility to discipline their errant members. (Weima 2014, 603)

The assumption is that they were waiting for the rapture. Possible. There is also the possibility these are folks who lost their jobs when they got saved and now believe it is the churches responsibility to care for them. Also, possible. There is also the very real possibility that due to the nature of idol worship and the reliance it had on prostitution as well as certain skilled jobs connected with making idols, that when people came to Christ, they would no longer remain in the old jobs but because of the persecution, there were no new jobs to move to. Now they are simply busy idle busy bodies.

We are not told what the situation was, but we are left to guess.

When folks come to Christ, every now and then, they do indeed find themselves employed in a job which is no longer compatible with being a believer, or the Holy Spirit has shown them it is not compatible with being a believer. This does indeed happen.



I know of a Calvary Chapel Pastor who was a drug dealer before coming to Christ and once he came to Christ, had to quit that job. Of course he would.

There are also those who come to Christ while imprisoned, and upon release, become part of a fellowship but due to the nature or crime that was committed, BC, are relegated to less than desirable jobs.

How do you deal with the one who has lots of time, is doctrinally skewed, and basically gets in the way everywhere questioning everything the church teaches or does.

Having had to deal with this several time in the past. You start off showing grace as you learn more. Many times, they become part of the fellowship and cease being meddlesome, but not always. There is a point that is reached, and it really varies, where it is time for the person to leave. When all someone wants to do is corner you and argue with you over what you taught, trying to convince you they are right and you are wrong, then it might be time.

When all you see is the individual cornering others in the body and pointing out what “they” consider to be error in the teaching or even in the way we do church, you may have reached that point.

The meddlesome idle are still with us today is what I am saying. I have never found them to be simply lazy folks who do not want to work, they all work, but they have lots of time on their hands and for some reason, the church or the teachings in it have become the object of their fascination. We must remember, Satan will use anyone he can to try and destroy or at least degrade ministry.

For Paul, this disruption to the life of the church is serious business. He brings to memory his and the team's behavior while they were there. He uses their behavior as one which should be copied.

2 Thessalonians 3:7–9

“For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined way among you, nor did we eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we kept working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you; not because we do not have the right to this, but in order to offer ourselves as a role model for you, so that you would follow our example.” (NASB 2020)

They did not leech off others. Paul was not saying that they never accepted a gift or a meal from others, but that they were self-supporting. (T. L. Constable 1985, 723)

By using their own behavior as an example, Paul is letting the church know, as well as those who have decided to not work, that work and self-support, even with the return of Jesus being so near, is what is the expectation of believers. We are not to become a problem for others.

The apostles had the right to receive physical help for their ministry, but as missionaries, Paul and the team thought it was important to show to pagans who were coming to Christ that the expectation of them working for a living has not changed. The church is not in the business of providing a livelihood to those who attend. This was intentional since some of the pagan temples had huge numbers of staff connected with them. This was not going to be the case for most of the church.

2 Thessalonians 3:10–11

“For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.” (NASB 2020)



Benevolence ministry in the church is an interesting thing to study or do. There are those, even today, who believe it is the job of the church to feed them and care for them. Paul did not teach that. But I have met with more than one person who thought that was the case. There are those who float from church to church looking for handouts and always asserting that they have reached the end of their rope.

There are cycles of what has gone wrong as well. Almost like there has been a meeting of swindlers and panhandlers to discuss what we will hit the churches up for this month. One month is the spouse had left them and taken all the money. That does happen from time to time but not three times in a row on the same day. Only the names were changed to protect the innocent, I guess, but the fact situation was exactly the same.

Trust me, I am not being cruel. Before meeting with anyone, I always asked the Lord to reveal to me the truth through the Holy Spirit, and He was always good to do that.

We have had folks tell us they were regular attenders here, but there were no records of them ever having been here. My favorite award goes to a gift we received one Thanksgiving time of multiple meals to be handed out. All the recipients had to do was cook them. We vetted all the families as best we could and then provided the food to them.

Shock of shocks, the next Thanksgiving, one family, driving a brand-new pickup truck, showed up literally demanding their meal and when told that was only a one-time thing, cursed us out and drove off. We have also had those show up looking for a handout, who were awaiting trial for stealing purses in another church when folks went up for communion.

I have no idea if this is what was happening in Thessalonica, but the Holy Spirit knows the heart of man and knew that this would be an easy avenue of attack for the enemy. Do we get it right all the time in benevolence? One hopes so, usually the sign is when told they must sit through the service first, they leave.

Freeloaders are not new. Paul also had to deal with them.

Paul gave a simple command: ““If anyone is unwilling to work, neither shall that person eat.” The “surprise” element for the later reader is the fact that Paul had had to make such a ruling, apparently in an ongoing way, when he and his companions were present with them.” (Fee 2009, 332)

Paul then focuses in on the group who are causing the issue. Probably based on information given to him by Timothy or whoever it was who took the first letter to Thessalonica.

2 Thessalonians 3:11–15

“For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now we command and exhort such persons in the Lord Jesus Christ to work peacefully and eat their own bread. But as for you, brothers and sisters, do not grow weary of doing good. If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person so as not to associate with him, so that he will be put to shame. And yet do not regard that person as an enemy, but admonish that one as a brother or sister.” (NASB 2020)

Paul commands those who are being disruptive, and in so doing he also reminds the remainder to continue to love.

That can be a hard thing to do when you are working with someone who has systematically taken advantage of you as well as caused trouble for you for a while. Because of Jesus, we are to live as if in



the Kingdom even now, since that is where our true citizenship resides. That means love for our brothers and sisters.

Yes, they are wrong, yes, they should be working and not being busybodies. But don't stop loving them. In an honor and shame culture, putting someone to shame should be sufficient to turn them around. But Paul was now ministering in a culture that was moving away from that.

Shunning them should do the trick of turning them around in that type of culture. "Paul's problem is that these people are not simply not "working" (ergazomenoi); they are "meddling" (periergazomenoi = "working intrusively"), a wordplay that everyone in the Thessalonian community would have captured immediately, and which is also nicely caught by the TNIV's "not busy but busybodies." Since this is obviously deliberate on Paul's part, one can be sure that if straight talk itself will not get his point across, this bit of play on words should catch everyone's attention—especially those who are "guilty" regarding this matter." (Fee 2009, 334)

Those who have been busybodies need to simply get to work and take care of their own needs and stop burdening the rest of the church. That is the goal of benevolence ministry, to assist and allow the person being helped to have the breathing room to get back on their own two feet. Not to manage their affairs for them for the rest of their life because they never learned how to control their spending.

As Paul finishes this difficult conversation involving discipline, he reminds the church that those who are being discussed, are indeed fellow believers and we must always keep that in mind even in the middle of the discipline.

2 Thessalonians 3:16–18

"Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all! I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter; this is the way I write. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all." (NASB 2020)

And with that, Paul is done. The points that needed to be covered have been and now it is up to the Holy Spirit to take the words he has put onto the page and use them as the letter is read to the people.

And with that we have completed the two letters that Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica. They had many of the same things going on that we have today to include those who think the church is here only to provide material goods for them.



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