

# *What a Pastor Wants for the Church*

II Thessalonians Series – Part 3

Scripture text – II Thessalonians 3

## Introduction

- Paul was an evangelist, church planter, apostle and writer of Scripture. He was also a \_\_\_\_\_.
- In this chapter, Paul shares 3 \_\_\_\_\_ for his former church.

## Desire #1

- **That God’s people will pray fervently for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel to all \_\_\_\_\_.**
- Admittedly, it is \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain this focus.
- At present, the proclamation of the gospel to all nations has \_\_\_\_\_.
- Paul doesn’t ask the church in Thessalonica for more money or resources; he simply asks them to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Desire #2

- **That God’s people will \_\_\_\_\_ God, especially in trials & difficulties.**
- *Prosperity Theology* asserts that it is \_\_\_\_\_ God’s will for his people to \_\_\_\_\_. That is utterly false.
- God \_\_\_\_\_ suffering for his good purposes; most notably, to \_\_\_\_\_ our faith.
- CS Lewis: “*God whispers to us in our pleasures, but shouts to us in our pain.*”

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Desire #3

- **That God's people will \_\_\_\_\_ to & \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word.**
- The presenting issue was that certain able-bodied members of the church in Thessalonica were refusing to \_\_\_\_\_ for a living and instead were \_\_\_\_\_ off the church.
- Principle: New Testament believers are expected to \_\_\_\_\_ apostolic commands & instructions.
- But what of grace?
  - Grace \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

A Difficult Subject

- It can't be ignored that Paul is also directing the church to take \_\_\_\_\_ against those members who persist in refusing to work. The term for this is \_\_\_\_\_.
- This is virtually unheard of in the \_\_\_\_\_ church.
- Proposition:

Spiritually mature churches are so concerned for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and \_\_\_\_\_ to his Word, as well as for the \_\_\_\_\_ of one another, that they will \_\_\_\_\_ yet \_\_\_\_\_ hold individual church members \_\_\_\_\_ when they persist in wrongdoing.

Discussion Questions

1. Will you commit to fervent prayer for the rapid spreading of the gospel to all nations?
2. How has suffering or hardship impacted your relationship with God?