

How then shall we pray in the light of His coming?

DAY ONE AND DAY TWO

1. Read through the entire book of II Thessalonians again. Read it as though you were sitting down to read a letter a good friend just sent to you. As you read this, watch for Paul's pattern as he writes; note why he is writing and the issues that concern him.
2. Do your Observation Worksheet on II Thessalonians 3. Read carefully. Mark key words. Make lists of what you learned about the words you marked. Note contrasts and comparisons, time references. Ask yourself the 5W's and H as you work your way through this chapter. Allow God to use His Word to cleanse you with the washing of the water of the Word.

DAY THREE

1. As you read through II Thessalonians again, you will notice that several times Paul gives thanks to God or mentioned that he was praying on behalf of the Thessalonians. He also requests prayer on behalf of Silvanus, Timothy, and himself. Today, look at where Paul gives thanks or prays on behalf of the Thessalonians.
2. On pages 40-44 you will find a chart entitled "The Place of Preventive Prayer and Thanksgiving." Using this chart, list these prayers in the order in which they occur. List what Paul requests or gives thanks for. Don't go beyond the content of the prayer.
3. Write out I Timothy 2:1-4 below. Note who is to be prayed for and why. This passage helps us to understand why Paul prayed the way he did. It can help us in our prayer life as well.

DAY FOUR

1. When someone tells you that they give thanks to God for you, aren't you encouraged? Sometimes God uses it as an encouragement to press on to godliness or as an exhortation not to fall from steadfastness. How would Paul's words serve to encourage those in Thessalonica? Look at your chart from yesterday. Would those words be an encouragement to you?
2. Now read through I Thessalonians and look for the specific prayers in that book as well. Record them on the chart, the same way you did yesterday.
3. If there are any words or terms in Paul's prayers that you do not understand, take a couple of minutes and do word studies on those words. Record what you learn in the space below.

4. There are a couple of other passages to read on prayer. As you read these passages, note any pertinent information on the chart on pages 40-44.
- a. Romans 15:30-33
 - b. II Corinthians 1:11 (look at verses 8-11)
 - c. Philippians 1:19-20
 - d. Hebrews 13:18-19
 - e. II Thessalonians 3:1-2

DAY FIVE

1. Have you ever struggled in your prayer life? Do you find yourself slipping into a rut and you pray the same old things. We are going to look at a couple more of Paul's letters and see how his prayers can help us in our prayer life. List what you learn about each of these prayers on the charts on pages 40-44. Take your time, and let the Lord speak to your heart. This might open a whole new world of prayer to you.
- a. Romans 1:8-12
 - b. I Corinthians 1:4-9
 - c. Ephesians 1:15-23
 - d. Ephesians 3:14-21
 - e. Philippians 1:3-4, 9-11
 - f. Colossians 1:3-14 (one of my favorites)
 - g. II Timothy 1:3-4
 - h. Philemon 1:4-7
 - i. Hebrews 13:20-21
2. Take time to look over your chart. You will be blessed by all that you see. Pray for others in your life, using Paul's prayers as an example. Lift up your brothers and sisters in Christ. Encourage them by sharing with them that you gave thanks to God for them.

The Place of Preventive Prayer and Thanksgiving

Reference	Content of Thanksgiving/Prayer	Why These Requests	What I learned

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