

What does it mean to have a disciplined life? Is your life disciplined?

Revelation 22:12 says, "Behold, I am coming quickly, and my reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done." What have you been doing? Are you living in the knowledge that time is short, and you need to make the most of every moment?

DAY ONE

1. Read through II Thessalonians 3, and think about what Paul is saying and why he is saying it.

2. Read through chapter three again, and note any new insights on this chapter that you see. It is amazing how every time we read God's word, more things begin to stand out to us. That is because God's Word is a living and active Word.

3. In II Thessalonians 3:1-5, Paul expresses his concern regarding the evil one, Satan.
 - a. Read through I Thessalonians 3:1-5, and note what Paul's concern about the tempter was in this passage and why.

b. According to II Thessalonians 3:1-5, what assurance of protection from the evil one do we have?

c. Is there any responsibility on our part?

4. Read Matthew 6:9-13. The word "evil" in verse 13 could be translated "the evil one." How does this correlate with what you have seen today?

If you did not know it, we are in a spiritual battle, folks. We need to learn how to stand firm in the midst of it. There is a great study by Precepts called "Lord Is It Warfare, Teach Me To Stand." I would strongly recommend this course to anyone!

DAY TWO

1. Do you think that there is any relationship between the evil one, evil men, and trials or temptations? Look up the following verses, and write what you learn from each one of them that you will be able to apply to your own life. Check the context of each one so you know who is speaking and to whom. Record this as well.

a. John 8:23, 40, 42-44

b. Ephesians 6:10-18

c. John 17:14-22

2. Read I Peter 5:8-11 and answer the following questions.

a. What does the devil (the evil one) cause or bring?

b. What are Peter's specific instructions in this passage?

c. How does this parallel with the situation in II Thessalonians?

d. What is the end result of warfare? Or what can be accomplished as you do what God tells you to do in I Peter and II Thessalonians?

3. List at least four things that you have learned about the evil one and warfare that you can apply to your life.

DAY THREE

1. Read through II Thessalonians 3 again. As you do, if you have not marked the words unruly or undisciplined (disorderly, KJV), do that now.
2. Look up these words in your word study books. Record what you learn.
3. In II Thessalonians 3:6 Paul gives a sharp command. Why? Explain to the best of your ability.
4. Let's do some word studies on the following words to help give us a clearer picture of what Paul is talking about in this passage. Record the number, the transliteration, and the definitions. Take special note as to why God uses the tenses that He does. Remember that you can go back to the chart located on pages 26 and 27 to help you with this assignment.
 - a. II Thessalonians 3:6 - keep aloof (withdraw, KJV) - present middle active
 - b. II Thessalonians 3:6 - leads (walketh, KJV) - present active participle
 - c. II Thessalonians 3:7 - follow - present middle infinitive

d. II Thessalonians 3:8 - kept working (wrought, KJV) - present middle participle

e. II Thessalonians 3:9 - model (example, KJV)

f. II Thessalonians 3:11 - acting like busybodies (are busybodies, KJV) - present middle participle

g. II Thessalonians 3:12 - to work in quiet fashion (with quietness they work, KJV) - present middle participle

h. II Thessalonians 3:14 - obey - present active indicative

i. II Thessalonians 3:14 - take special note (note, KJV) - present middle imperative

j. II Thessalonians 3:14 - do not associate (have no company, KJV) - present middle infinitive

k. II Thessalonians 3:15 - admonish - present active imperative

5. How disciplined is your life? This is a question asked at the beginning of this week. Let's take a practical look at it. You need to make this a priority and be absolutely honest with yourself. For the next three days keep track of how you spend your time. Make sure that one of those days is a Saturday or Sunday - whatever day you don't follow your normal daily routine. List how many hours you spend doing the following things:

	Day 1 _____ (Day of week)	Day 2 _____ (Day of week)	Day 3 _____ (Day of week)
Sleeping			
Eating			
Working			
Television			
Prayer/Bible Study			
Recreation/Leisure			
Time with children (if applicable)			

It would be great for you to keep a log like this for a week or two to be able to evaluate how you are using your time. It may be an eye-opening experience.

DAY FOUR

1. Was slothfulness regarding work a new problem to the church of Thessalonica? Look up I Thessalonians 4:9-12.
 - a. What were Paul's instructions then?

 - b. Does it look like the problem was solved? Was there a difference in Paul's instructions in II Thessalonians?

2. What did Paul command regarding the undisciplined busybodies?

3. What do you think of Paul's command and why?

c. Look up I Corinthians 13:4-8. List the way that love is demonstrated.

3. Now, think carefully. Can you separate yourself from a brother as described in II Thessalonians 3 and I Corinthians 5:11 and still show love? Explain your answer; don't just say yes or no. It is vitally important that you know how and why you do what you do according to the Scripture.

4. In his admonishments about not eating unless you work, Paul points to himself as a model. Paul did this in other passages; therefore, this must have been a common problem. Look up the following verses and note what you learn:

a. I Thessalonians 2:5-12

b. I Corinthians 9:9-15. Did Paul have to work making tents and doing extra labor in addition to proclaiming the gospel and overseeing the churches?

5. Because Paul lived the way he did, he could say to others, "Follow my example," (Philippians 3:17 and I Corinthians 11:1). Look up these verse and write what Paul was saying in them to the churches and to you!

Well, you made it. I pray that what you have been able to learn through these five weeks will strengthen your faith and your walk in the Lord. I am very glad that you have gained knowledge through this study, but be careful because knowledge puffs up. Allow what you have learned to be used of God to transform your life by the renewing of your mind.