

May 10, 2026
II Thessalonians 3:1-5
“My Prayer Life Matters”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Paul and company were not so brash as to think their preaching skills or anything else of or in them was bringing on the success of their campaign. Here they acknowledge that the success of their Missionary Journeys was due to God’s hand of favor. This is something prayer is really good at, keeping things in their proper perspective, even hard times. They prayed, God prepared hearts, and His word was honored with a positive response. For this very reason this church had come into existence. Now for the take-away, Thessalonians, you were prayed over and look around. Now, you pray and get busy because there is a lot of work to be done to get the gospel out so that others could have the opportunity hear the words of life.

In **v 2**, The enemy tried and still tries to frustrate the efforts of missionaries. **Acts 17:1-9** gives us a bird’s-eye view of the introduction, acceptance, and resistance of the gospel there in Thessalonica.

When a person meditates on the love of God and the endurance of Christ, they are motivated to obey His Word and to patiently endure trials themselves. To “direct” here in **v 5** means to clear the way!

In **Acts 6:4** the 12 devoted themselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word. The shepherd has a distinct and vital ministry to carry out. Christians have a duty to the pastor as well, see **I Thessalonians 5:12-13**. When both parties fulfill their part the church is blessed by God, becomes a powerful beacon of light to its community, is effective in kingdom work, and is one joyful place to be.

Paul considered prayer one means by which the church could participate with him in his ministry. Paul made similar requests in: **Romans, II Corinthians**, and **Philippians**. Paul asked them to pray for specific things. When ever you know of specific needs, it is a good practice to wrap those specific needs up in laser precision prayer.

The Lord will guard/protect you but bear in mind that this does not imply the absence of conflict.

It is a stark reality that viciously wicked men wish to silence the voices of men preaching the Word. Beloved, pray for them!

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Application:

A medley of prayers:

Daniel 9:1-23.

Psalms 23.

Matthew 6:9-15. (CSB) takes a different pitch at this passage, still good. Meditate on this.

Philippians 1:9-11.

Colossians 1:9-12.

Let’s pray brothers and sisters

II Chronicles 7:13-15

“If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer *offered* in this place.”
(NASB)