



LESSON SEVEN

Kingdom Faith 2 Thessalonians 1

**Paul, Silas and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ:**

**Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.**

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters,[b] and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. In the last 2 years, have you seen God bring justice to a situation? If so, what happened?

2. What are the similarities between Paul's greeting in 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 and his greeting in 1 Thessalonians 1:1? In your opinion, why does Paul open a majority of his letters like this?

3. In the video lesson, Kayla says, "The anchor of our faith is found in remembering that God is good and just, no matter our circumstances." She also gave some practical examples to help us remember (e.g., recalling God's passion for justice, "Remembering Good" journal, etc.). What are some other things you could do remember that God is good and just?

4. How do the examples of other believers cause you to personally love and worship God more deeply (v. 3-4)?

5. Paul writes in vs. 5, "All this is evidence that God's judgment is right." To what is "this" referring?

6. Read vs. 5-7 and Isaiah 30:18? How is God currently being gracious and compassionate in your life?

7. In vs. 6, what does Paul write about those who've harmed us? According to vs. 7-9, how will God deal with those who bring injustice? Now, in Matthew 5:38-48, what does Jesus say about our response to those who hurt us? Why is it so difficult for us to trust what Paul says and do what Jesus commands? How have you resisted the urge to take revenge?

8. What do vs. 11-12 and Philippians 1:27-28 say about believers being worthy of God's calling? What do these verses say about living out God's calling?

PERSONAL GROWTH

1. Pray for the person with whom you want to share the Gospel. If you don't have anyone that you're sharing Jesus with, ask God to reveal that person to you or put someone in your life that needs to hear about Jesus.
2. Memorize 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12.
3. Review any of the above prompts that your group did not cover or the prompts you want to look at again.
4. Do a study on the church!!!
 - Read Matthew 16:18; 28:19-20; Acts 2:1-13, 38-47; 1 Corinthians 12:12-26; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:14-22; Colossians 1:16-19; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-8; Revelation 2-3; 21:1-5; 22:12-21.
 - Now, answer the following questions and write down supporting scriptures next to your answer:
 - o Who established the church?
 - o Who is head of the church?
 - o What is the purpose of the church?
 - o Who makes up the church?
 - o Is the church just for people of a certain ethnicity or race? How are you sure of your answer?
 - o How are the people in the church supposed to treat each other? What are members of the church supposed to do for each other?
 - o How can people in the church make mistakes? What has Jesus warned certain churches about and how has he warned people in the church?
 - o What does the future of the church look like?