

**Grace Community Church
A Present Peace
May 31, 2026**

HOME GROUP QUESTIONS

1. **Read Acts 17:1-9 and 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2.** Make correlations between the Thessalonians' experience and Paul's request for prayer. Do you regularly pray for the proclamation of the Word? What rhythms might you put in place to prompt you to do so regularly?
2. **Read verses 3-5.** In what ways have you experienced the faithfulness of the Lord in his establishing and/or guarding you from the evil one? What does Paul mean when he says he has "confidence in the Lord (v. 4)?" In what way(s) do you need to believe and/or act in response to Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians in verse 5?
3. **Read verses 6-15.**
 - a. **Review the questions below and discuss any your group would like to discuss.**
 - i. Do you expend energy meddling in the business of others in the church?
 - ii. Do you express an expectation for others in the church to serve you in ways you are able, but are unwilling?
 - iii. Do you find that you are energized in nitpicking the decisions of those who are serving as leaders in the church?
 - iv. Are you eager for others to take on your burdens at their expense?
 - v. Do you consider the example you are setting for others to imitate in your unwillingness to do hard things?
 - vi. Are you compelled to always draw attention, even if not obviously, to your needs or your abundance to receive attention or affirmation?
 - b. **How do you combat becoming a drain and distraction in our church? How do you keep from growing weary in doing good (How do you combat discouragement in serving our church)? Have you experienced or witnessed benefits in some way from distancing and warning?**

4. **Read verses 16-18.** In addition to salvation, share ways are you unashamedly dependent on Jesus? Share if there has been any teaching relating to eschatology in this sermon series that has helped you become less anxious concerning the end times.
5. **Share one takeaway from our study in 1 and 2 Thessalonians.**

SERMON NOTES

Scripture References

- Acts 17:6b-7 [6b] “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, [7] and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.”

Quotes & Notes

- Last century, God did a mighty work in London through a giant of the faith named Charles Haddon Spurgeon. His sermons are studied to this day. The story is told that one Sunday afternoon, a contingency of ministers came to the massive Metropolitan Tabernacle to observe him. Assuming the stout man at the side of the building wearing bib overalls to be the janitor, they asked, “Sir, would you kindly show us the power plant of this huge structure?”
“Certainly,” the man replied, leading them to the basement.
As he opened the door at the end of a hallway, the ministers expected to see a mighty furnace. Instead, they saw over two hundred men on their knees praying for the upcoming evening service.
“Prayer, gentlemen,” he said, “is the power plant of the Metropolitan Tabernacle.”
The man—Spurgeon himself—knew where the power lay.¹

¹ Jon Courson, [*Jon Courson's Application Commentary*](#) (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2003), 1358.

Sermon Outline

Main point of the text:

Paul asks the Thessalonians to pray to the proclamation of the word, and he instructs them how to persevere in obedience to the word.

Main point of the sermon:

Pray for the proclamation of the word and persevere in obedience to the word.

Title:

A Present Peace

- Pray for the proclamation of the word (1-2)
 - Pray for the preaching (1)
 - Pray for the preachers (2)
- Persevere in the faith (3-5)
 - Know the Lord is faithful (3)
 - Do what is commanded (4)
 - Attune your heart to the Lord (5)
- Pursue peace in the church (6-18)
 - Don't drain and distract | The problem (6,11)
 - Focus and work | The instruction (7-10, 12-13)
 - Distance and warn | The solution (14-15)
 - Be unashamedly dependent on Jesus | The prayer (16-18)