2 Thessalonians 2:14-15

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

* Day 1

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:14-15.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

**14**It was for this He called you

through our gospel,

that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**15**So then, brethren, stand firm

and hold to the traditions

which you were taught,

whether by word *of mouth*

or by letter from us.

1. Verse 14 looks back to vs 13 when it states, “It was for this he called you.” For what were the Thessalonians called?
2. What does the term “called” imply? What conclusions can we draw about this term from the preceding verses (11-13?)
3. What is the end result of being called through the gospel?
4. What does it mean to gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ? How do you know?
5. How would this understanding of being called and ultimately gaining the glory of Christ stabilize the faith of the Thessalonians in the face of rumors that the day of the Lord has come?
6. How would this understanding of being called and ultimately gaining the glory of Christ motivate growth in sanctification and endurance in persecution for the Thessalonians? For you personally?

* Day 2

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:14-15 again.

1. List some synonyms or definitions for the commands “Stand firm” and “Hold” What images do these words bring to mind?
2. List some cross-references that deal with standing firm or holding fast. What can you learn from these comparisons?
3. On What basis are the Thessalonians commanded to stand firm? What does the “So them” statement tell us about this command?
4. Paul could have used several different descriptors but chose “Stand Firm” and “Hold.” What do these words tell us about the importance of these commands to the Thessalonian Church?
5. How would the Thessalonians stand firm and hold fast to what they had been taught? How would you know they were being successful in this?
6. When Paul tells the Thessalonians to “hold to the traditions” and then states that there are written traditions and spoken traditions (the Greek woodenly translated would be “if by of word or if by of our letter”) does this mean that there are spoken traditions that we should hold to alongside written scripture?
7. How does understanding the unique time the letter was written help us understand what Paul was referencing when he speaks of his teaching in word or letter? What scripture references help us gain clarity on why written scripture is sufficient for us today?

* Day 3

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:14-15 again.

1. Paul has referenced in this letter things that he taught the Thessalonians when he was with them. What are some of those things?
2. Did the Thessalonians have special teaching from Paul that we have no access to today?
3. How would this commitment to the truth help the Thessalonians detect error and false teaching?
4. Do these verses seem to indicate a personal or collective responsibility in remaining steadfast in the truth?
5. How does this passage connect to the main idea of the book? (Live in light of Jesus return?)
6. Summarize the passage in 21 words or less.

As you prepare for Sunday Pray you too would stand firmly in the truths you have been taught about Christ and his Word to us. Pray for others in our body that they would do the same.