

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

2 Thessalonians 1:1-2

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 1:1-2

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.

1:1 Paul and Silvanus and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians
in God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ

1:2 Grace to you
and peace
from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Since this is an overview sermon of 2 Thessalonians, take the time to read through the three chapters of 2 Thessalonians. Follow the remaining questions for Day 1 based on reading through the entire book.
 - a. List out headings found in this letter in your bibles.
 - b. As you read, look for key verbs in paragraphs that indicate the thrust of the section along with their subject or main ideas (i.e. Day of the Lord).

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2. Based on the overview, why is there a need for a second letter to this church?

❖ Day 2

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 again.

3. Where else are Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy mentioned other than the start of a letter? Are they together anywhere else in scripture? Where else do we find Silvanus in the Bible and how is he known?
4. Who is the principal author of this letter? Why would the other individuals be mentioned in the introduction?
5. The intention of a letter is to be sent to someone for reading. Who is the intended recipient of this letter?
6. What are the descriptors for this letter's recipient?

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7. Looking and the phrase “in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”, what is significant about the description of God as “our Father” and the Lord as “Jesus Christ”?

❖ Day 3

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 again.

8. In 21 words or less describe biblical grace.
9. Look at the diagram on the first page of the study guide. Notice the preposition “to” in both verse 1 & 2. The word to comes from the Greek “dative” case and indicates an indirect object. How is this helpful to understand the opening of this letter? Are there any verbs in these verses? What verb is implied?
(Remember: an indirect object “receives” the action of the verb, and is not the “thing” being acted” upon. For example see the sentence, “Bob threw Jim the ball.” Bob did not throw Jim, but instead he threw the ball. Jim is the indirect object receiving the action “threw.”)
10. Building on the previous question, what does Paul mean by “grace to you” as an introduction of this letter?
(hint: look at 2 Thessalonians 3:18, 1 Thessalonians 1:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:28)

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11. Why does Paul connect grace and peace?

12. Looking at the diagram from the beginning of this homework, what is the only difference in verse 1 and 2 in the phrases “God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”?

13. Building on the question above, what is the difference in meaning between “in” and “from” in these phrases?

14. Meditate on the rich position we have as a church of Christ and how that should shape our thinking and actions every moment of every day. List several implications.

15. Summarize the book of 2 Thessalonians in one sentence. See if your synthesis matches Bret’s main idea in his sermon. If you are ambitious, attempt to summarize the book into its different sections/parts/big supporting ideas in the form of a simple outline.

In preparation for Sunday, pray ...

Our hearts would be opened, and our minds quickened to see and hear God’s truth heralded and that we are refreshed in the truth of the great grace and peace we have in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Thankful for the local body gathered together to hear the reading and explaining of this letter that God has preserved for the edification of the bride of Christ. This letter would move us to correct biblical thinking and action.