

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

2 Thessalonians 3:4-5

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 3:4-5.

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.

⁴We have confidence
 in the Lord
 concerning you,
 that you are doing
 and will *continue to do*
 what we command.

⁵May the Lord direct your hearts
 into the love
 of God
 and into the steadfastness
 of Christ.

1. How does this week's passage relate to the previous verses?
2. What does Paul and his coworkers in the gospel possess according to verse 4?
3. Where is this possession placed?
4. What does it mean to have confidence in the Lord?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

5. What is the content of this confidence in the Lord? In other words, what are they confident about?

6. What two timelines are presented (past, present, or future) in regard to the activity of the Thessalonians?

7. How does the activity of the Thessalonians described in verse 4 relate to the authors of the letter?

❖ Day 2

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:4-5 again.

8. Why might Paul reference these commands? Why bring up his confidence in their obedience?

9. What do these commands reveal about the authority of those who give them?

10. How would you describe verse 5? What type of language is being used?

11. How would you describe the function of these verses in this section of the letter and the whole of the book?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

12. What is Paul praying for?

13. Where are their hearts first to be directed?

14. What does it mean to have a heart directed into the love of God?

❖ Day 3

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:4-5 again.

15. What would the impact be of a heart that is directed into the love of God? List several implications.

16. Note who specifically possesses the love in verse 5. Are there any other passages that would show what this person's love looks like particularly?

17. Why would Paul pray for this specifically in light of the letter and the context/occasion of the letter to the Thessalonian believers?

18. Where is the second place the Thessalonian's hearts are to be directed?

19. Note who possesses this steadfastness.

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

20. Why might Paul distinguish a different person of the trinity in reference to steadfastness?

21. Are there any other passages that speak to the steadfastness of Christ? What else does the Bible have to say about the steadfastness of Christ?

22. What are the implications of a heart that is directed into the steadfastness of Christ? What would result from a heart being directed to this place?

23. How might you cultivate a heart that is directed deeper into the love of God and steadfastness of Christ? How does this prayer influence your own prayer life?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that your heart would be directed deeper into the Love of God and steadfastness of Christ. Pray this also for our members, leaders, and children. Pray also for perseverance in your obedience to the commands of Scripture both now and in the future.