

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

2 Thessalonians 3:16-18

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 3:16-18.

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.

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace
in every circumstance.

The Lord be with you all!

¹⁷ I, Paul, write this greeting
with my own hand,
and this is a distinguishing mark in every letter;
this is the way I write.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

1. What is Paul emphasizing as he closes this letter?
2. How would you title each of these three verses? Use one word per verse.
3. What is brought out by Paul using the title “the Lord of peace Himself”
4. What is highlighted by Paul asking that the Lord grant peace in every circumstance?

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5. What were the circumstances in which the Thessalonians were receiving the letter?

6. When Paul prays for peace, does he seem to have in mind physical or spiritual peace or both? Explain.

7. What are some directions that Paul has given the Thessalonians that will lead to them having a settled peace in their circumstances?

❖ Day 2

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18 again.

8. In this passage Paul requests of the Lord or invokes blessing of the Lord on the Thessalonians three times. Twice in vs 16 and once in vs 18. What similarities or differences stand out? Is this Paul's version of a Midwest goodbye or is he focusing on something unique in each?

9. In some of Paul's letters he directs final words to specific individuals. Who are these final words directed towards and how do you know?

10. What do these departing words tell you about Paul's relationship with the Thessalonians?

11. Consider 1:1-2 and 3:16-18. What similarities do you see? Repeated words or ideas?

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12. How do vs. 1:1-2 and 3:16-18 form bookends to this epistle?

13. As Paul closes with these brief words of prayer and blessing what other prayers has Paul offered on behalf of the Thessalonians in this letter?

14. Where is Paul's confidence as he closes this letter?

❖ Day 3

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18 again.

15. Why is Paul so insistent that this letter was personally written by him?

16. What are the distinguishing marks by which the Thessalonians can know the letter was written by Paul?

17. In what other NT book does Paul emphasize his authorship?

18. How do you reconcile Paul's statement, "this is a distinguishing mark in every letter;" with books that indicate they were written by the dictation of Paul?

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19. Paul chooses a variety of words to focus on in the various benedictions that close his letters. (Peace, love, fellowship) Here he chooses “the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.” Why do you think this was chosen over other options when considering the whole of this letter?

20. In 21 words or less summarize the main point of this passage.

In preparation for Sunday, pray that the Lord would grant us peace in every circumstance and for the comfort of knowing that the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with us all.