

2 Thessalonians 3:12-18

Devotional

2 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Observations and Questions:

O: In v12, Paul commands and exhorts the **busybodies**, through the Lord to work in quietness and eat their own bread. **Busybodies** - busy not working

- **Q:** What are some areas in my life, that have maybe become a little to idle?
- **Q:** What are some things I can be doing instead to show the power and provision of Jesus in my life?
- **Q:** What are some ways I have already seen the power and provision of Jesus working in my life?

O: In v13, Paul shifts the focus to those who are working hard and letting God be glorified, and Paul says, "**Do not grow weary in doing good!**" It is hard to see others take advantage of generosity when you work so hard for what you have.

- **Q:** The idea behind **doing good**, is seeking to serve and please God, not man. Knowing this, how am I **doing good** in my work environment? In my home environment? And how can I keep from growing weary when things are not going my way? Or when things just don't seem fair?

2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

Observations and Questions:

O: In v14, Paul is elaborating on v6, and what it looks like to withdraw from an Idle brother who will not repent. Paul says, "**Note that person and do not keep company with them, that they may be ashamed.**" Paul is very clear here, that this person is not the enemy, but a brother or sister who needs admonishment.

- **Q:** Have you ever been ashamed of something you did?
- **Q:** Did being ashamed lead to conviction?
- **Q:** Did conviction lead to repentance?

O: This is the idea behind withdrawing from an idle brother or sister, that the being separated would lead to conviction, and that conviction would lead to repentance and reconciliation.

2 Thessalonians 3:16-18

Observations and Questions:

O: In v16, Paul prays for a blessing of **Peace**:

- **Q:** In hard times and chaotic situations, how comforting is it to experience the **peace of God**?
- **Q:** How amazing is it that we can have peace always, in every way when we cry out to the Lord and keep our eyes fixed on Him?
- **Q:** Are there people in your life that could use God's Peace? And will you pray for the peace of God in their life?

O: Paul had just finished exhorting, correcting and rebuking these Thessalonian Christians, and in the last verse, Paul says, "**The grace of our lord Jesus Christ be with you all.**" All of them, even the sinning rebuked person.

- **Q:** How much grace do I extend to my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?
- **Q:** Am I quick to judge? Or quicker to show God's grace?
- **Q:** How is grace connected to peace? And can you have peace without grace?

Pray this week for the Peace of God in yours and other's lives, and see if grace starts to happen.