

1 THESS.2:17-3:13 Standing Firm in the Lord

When was the last time you were away from someone you really cared about? How did it affect you?

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

1. What were some of the emotions that Paul had for the Thessalonians and how did he care for them?

What does it take to be committed to people like this?

2. In 2:18 and 3:5 Paul mentions Satan/Tempter. Why do you think Satan "blocked" him? Also see verse 10

Why was Paul concerned about temptation? Also see Mark 4:13-17

3. Timothy's report after visiting Thessalonica refreshed and encouraged Paul. What three pieces of news seem to have especially encouraged him (verse 6)? Why did they have this affect on him?

4. Paul has a lot of joy for the Thessalonians (2:19; 3:9) What is it? Why does he have it?

What focus will cause you to have joy toward your Christian brothers and sisters as Paul did for the Thessalonians?

5. Can we live more holy and loving lives simply by trying to do so (12-13)? What else besides our own efforts is needed, and how can we be more loving & holy?

6. How does Paul pray for them in verses 11-13?

What does it teach us about praying for others?

What does it teach us about Standing firm in the Lord?

7. Paul, Silas and Timothy prayed that God would remove the obstacles that hindered them from visiting the Thessalonians (11). Do we view prayer as a practical force in our ministry serving Jesus or if not how can we change?

Do you give prayer sufficient priority in your life? Do we give prayer sufficient priority in the life of our Church?

8. When do you feel most tempted and what is your defence? (if time allows also read Ephesians 6:10-20, Psalm 119:11, Psalm 25:15, 1Corinthians 10:13, Matthew 5:29)

Give thanks for the 650 people who attended the Mike Baird Dinner and pray for ongoing fruit to come from it. Pray that we would have a spirit of growing prayerfulness among us.