

1 and 2 Thessalonians

Gail Arterburn –2025

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am

To be discussed –06/16/25

Lesson 11

2 Thessalonians 3:6-18

1. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, along with 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15. Paul had warned them about idleness in his first letter, but apparently the situation had not improved. How does the tone of his letter change in the second letter? (v. 6) How was the church to address the problem?
2. What example had Paul set by his own life? Why?
3. Why was this such a serious problem that it called for church discipline? How might the idleness of some and the failure to follow the teaching they had received from Paul negatively affect the whole church and the spread of the gospel?
4. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:11-15. Those that were idle were not truly idle, what were they busy doing? (v. 11) What should they have been doing instead? (v. 12)
5. What were Paul's concerns for the "workers" within the church? (v. 13 and Galatians 6:9) We live busy lives, but are we busy doing good? Is there anything you need to change?
6. According to vs. 14-15, how were the members of the church to treat the "idlers" and the "disobeyers"? What was the intended goal of church discipline?
7. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16-18. What does Paul pray for them in v. 16? Why? What peace is he talking about? Is it the absence of conflict? How do we experience this peace? (vs. 16, John 14:25-27, Phil. 4:6-9)
8. How does Paul authenticate this letter so that they know it is from him? What was his final desire and prayer for them?