THE PROBLEM OF THE IDLERS 2 THESSALONIANS 3



LESSON PREP

- Identify the gospel truths in this chapter.
- Read 1 Thess 4:1 and 2 Thess 2:15.
- Read 1 Cor 9:11-14.
- Research idleness in the scriptures.

PRE LG TEXT MESSAGE QUESTIONS

Where in your life are you lazy and why? This is what we'll be discussing at Lifegroup tonight as we continue our study on the book of 2 Thessalonians.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

2 Thessalonians 3:5

10N1 FOLLOW UP

Where are you tempted to be idle?

OVERVIEW

The following video by The Bible Project gives a great overview of the book of 2 Thessalonians: https://youtu.be/kbPBDKOn1cc

INTRODUCTION

- Do you ever find yourself being lazy?
- · What leads you to feel/act that way?

Prayer (2 Thess. 3:1-5)

- · What two things does Paul request prayer for?
- In what sense has the first one already been happening for them?
- What are your thoughts on the prayer in v.5?

Warning (2 Thess. 3:6-15)

- · How many times does the word "command" appear? Why?
- What is the "tradition" Paul is referring to? (1 Thess 4:1; 2 Thess 2:15)
- Read 1 Thess 5:14. In Paul's first letter, he ends it by instructing the church to admonish the idle. It clearly remained an issue since Paul had to go deeper into it.
- Read Prov. 21:25-26 and Eccles. 10:18.
- · What are the dangers of idleness?
- · Where are you lazy? What makes you lazy?

Gospel Payment (2 Thess. 3:7-10)

- Is Paul saying it is wrong to receive money for gospel ministry?
- · Read 1 Cor. 9:11-14. How does this relate?
- What was Paul's motivation for relinquishing this right? We also should remember that the
 Thessonlians were struggling with idleness. If Paul received payment and they were supposed
 to imitate him, they may be tempted into more idleness.

Peace (2 Thess. 3:16-18)

- · Why does Paul end the letter with the prayer of peace and the Lord's presence?
- How does this show Paul's love and genuineness? How are you challenged to be more genuine?

APPLICATION

Seeing everything we do as unto the Lord should cause us to reevaluate and change our work ethic.

