

How to Pray Like Paul

Learning from his prayers
for the New Testament churches

Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 22 October 2023 #3 Thessalonica

1. What impacted you most from the Sunday sermon?

1 Thessalonians 1. 3 We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Spend a little time giving God thanks for those in your small group and church family inspired by Paul's prayer above.

1 Thessalonians 3. 13 May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

3. Does this type of prayer feature in your prayer-life for others? Why/ Why not?

Please read and unpack some of the passages that set the scene for this prayer...

4. **1 Thess 1.8-10** – Why were they 'waiting', and what is the 'coming wrath' that they were rescued from, (see also **Acts 10.42-43**)?
5. **1 Thess 4.16-18** – Do these words encourage you? Why?
6. **1 Thess 5.1-9** – When we become 'awake' to the truth of Gospel, and the coming 'day of the Lord', how should that change our behaviour?
7. **Titus 2.11-14; 1 Peter 4.3-7; Colossians 3.1-6** – Why do the Apostles Paul and Peter urge us to live godly lives as we await Christ's return?
8. **1 John 2.28; 1 John 3.1-6** – What reason does the Apostle John give for continuing to 'purify ourselves' as we live lives that are prepared for Christ's appearing?

1 Thessalonians 5

23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

9. How do the above passages about Christ's return (Questions 3-7) make sense of Paul's prayer in 1 Thess 5.23-24?
10. How might you incorporate this type of prayer into your daily prayers for yourself and for others?
11. Close with praying for one-another in your group and in the church family in light of Christ's return