

Life in the Word

Cornerstone Sermon-based Life Group Lesson



Sermon Series: **Hope Now and Forever**

Sermon Title: **Waiting with Patience**

Scripture Passage: **2 Thessalonians 3:1-5**

Getting Started

- 1) Read 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5 together. Share with one another the impact the sermon had on your life.

2) In 3:1, Paul called the church to pray for the spread of the gospel with three emphases: for those who are spreading the gospel, that the gospel will spread rapidly, and that the impact of the gospel on people would be honored. Think of the many issues we are bombarded with on a daily basis that call for prayer. How do we keep this call to prayer and these three emphases a clear focus in our lives?

Perhaps this is a good time to pray as a group. Consider the following using Acts 1:8:

- “Jerusalem”—your neighborhood/Long Beach
- “Judea”—your country
- “Samaria”—other nations of the world where there is already a gospel presence
- “Uttermost parts of the earth”—the unreached people groups of the world
 - If you need help with this one, consider resources like <https://joshuaproject.net/> which will give you helpful information. If you really want to go for it and take it to the next level, check out <https://stratus.earth/>

3) In 3:2, Paul calls the church to pray the protection of those who deliver the message. This causes us to especially consider those parts of the world where those who spread the gospel face much persecution, even martyrdom. Let's pray for them. If you need help you might consider:

- 2022 World Watch List at <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/>
- Global Prayer Guide at <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/>

4) Although 3:3-5 is again focused on the spread of the gospel, the truths in these verses apply to the entirety of our Christian lives. We are to:

- Trust in God's faithful (3:3)
- Build one another up (3:4)
- Focus on God's love and perseverance (3:5)

Think about your lives together. In what ways is God calling you to obedience in these three areas?

What will it mean for you to grow as you live out these truths? How can you exhibit these three truths more deeply in your group?

5) Pray for one another that your lives will more deeply be living out the truths of this passage.