

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

2 Thessalonians

These questions are for the **April 3, 2016** sermon, "Future Growth." Please read the sermon passage (2 Thessalonians 3:1-5) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

AS WE CONNECT PRESENT WITH FUTURE, NOTE . . .

1. **How the Word of God is spread by His people (1-2)**
 - A. Pray that the Word of God will
 - i. speed ahead (1) (outdistance the competition)
 - ii. and be honored (1) (reach a celebrated finish)
 - B. Pray that the people of God will be delivered from evil and wicked opponents (2)
 - i. Often, the greatest obstacle to the advancement of Word comes from within the religious community.
 - ii. "Prayer is one of the means that God has etched into the cosmos for the advancement of His kingdom." -Carl Henry
2. **How the work of God is strengthening His people (3-5)**
 - A. He will establish you.
 - B. He will guard you.
 - C. He will encourage you as you obey his commands.
 - D. He will direct your hearts to the love of God.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: How much time do you spend in the Word? Would you describe the activity of the Word in your life as "speeding ahead" or "outdistancing the competition"? Why or why not?
2. Based on #1, above: Do you pray that your eyes will be opened to where you are intentionally or unintentionally "slowing up" the Word of God in your life? How do you hinder to progression and prosperity of God's Word?
3. Based on #1, above: Paul (a Bible "PhD") is asking for new converts (Bible novices) to pray for him. Do you humble yourself like this before in community with believers of other maturity levels? How can you better follow Paul's example of humility?
4. Based on #1, above: How does the discipline of praying for persecuted believers around the world factor into your life? Would you say this is a discipline that you are pursuing? Why or why not?
5. Based on #2, above: As the days get darker, God will strengthen His people in response to the prayers of His people. We have the responsibility to pray and receive strength from God. Review 2. A-D above, and reflect on how God is at work in your life. Which work is most obvious? Which work is least obvious? How can we pray for you?