

BE A BRINGER

"40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus" John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

"Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;...." I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Sharon Mihill | Papua New Guinea

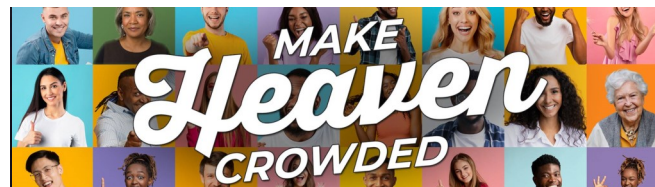


PRAY

- Pray for Victoria's grandfather who is rapidly failing in health.
- Pray at Sharon would be able to meet the educational needs identified during these workshops in the future.

PRAISE

- Praise God for the recent Tok Pisin Literacy Workshop especially for the four leaders adapted and learned to tailor the workshop to suit the needs of the attendees.
- Praise God for safe travels to NIP.
- Praise God that Trey was finally able to have a hernia surgery after waiting a year and half. He is recovering well.



Handout: 07/20/25

Study Date: 07/27/25

Make Heaven Crowded By Praying

2 Thessalonians 3:1 states: "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you."

This verse marks the conclusion of the letter to the Thessalonians, where Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy ask for prayer from the believers in Thessalonica. The request for prayer is not simply for their own personal needs, but rather for the sake of the gospel and the spread of God's word.

In terms of context, it is important to understand the historical and cultural background of the Thessalonian church. The city of Thessalonica was a vibrant commercial center with a diverse population, making it an influential location for the spread of the gospel. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians addressed their concerns about the return of Christ and the resurrection of the dead. In this second letter, he continues to encourage and exhort them in their faith, while also addressing issues of idleness and the need for steady work.

The symbolism in this verse lies in the word of the Lord itself. In a broader sense, the word of the Lord represents the entirety of scripture and its transformative power. It is not merely a collection of words, but a living and active force that has the ability to change hearts and lives. The idea of the word having "free course" suggests movement and vitality, indicating that it is not meant to be stagnant or confined.

Furthermore, the concept of the word being "glorified" points to its ultimate purpose and significance. The word of the Lord reveals God's character, his redemptive plan for humanity, and his desire for reconciliation. As it is proclaimed and received, it brings honor and glory to God, as people come to understand and embrace the truth it contains.

In conclusion, 2 Thessalonians 3:1 encapsulates the heart of Paul's ministry and the mission of the early church. It underscores the importance of prayer, unity among believers, and the primary focus on the proclamation of the gospel. The verse serves as a reminder that the spread of the word of the Lord is not just a human endeavor, but requires the support and empowerment of God through prayer. Ultimately, the word of the Lord is central to the Christian faith, and its glorification is a reflection of God's sovereignty and his desire for all people to come to know him.

Resource: Bible.art

KEY VERSE

II Thessalonians 3:1 (NKJV)

“Finally brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you.”

Read II Thessalonians 3:1 Every Day

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: II Thessalonians 3:1

Introduction

1. In II Thessalonians 3:1, Paul asks for prayer that *“the word of the Lord run swiftly and be glorified.”* How do YOU interpret this prayer request?
2. What can we learn from paragraph 6 on pg. 1 about Paul’s mission of the early church? How does it encourage us to spread the word of the Lord?

Tuesday: II Thessalonians 3:1a; Ephesians 6:18-20

Pray For The Missionary

3. What can we learn as believers from Paul’s request in II Thessalonians 3:1a? *What* should those who choose to spread the gospel ask for before going?
4. What “specifically” does Paul pray for in Ephesians 6:19? As ambassadors of Christ, *how* must we speak the gospel? (Ephesians 6:19-20)

Wednesday: II Thessalonians 3:1b; Ephesians 6:19

Pray For The Message Of The Gospel

5. In II Thessalonians 3:1b Paul asks for prayer that the *“word of the Lord run swiftly”* How often do YOU pray for the word to reach the lost?
6. Why does Paul ask for prayer that *“utterance may be given to me”* in Ephesians 6:19? *Why* can Paul *“make known the mystery of the gospel”*?

Thursday: II Thessalonians 3:1c; I Thessalonians 2:13

Pray For Those That Will Be Hearing The Gospel

7. When Paul states; *“just as it is with you”* in II Thessalonians 3:1c, how is he hoping this prayer will be answered regarding “hearers” of the gospel?
8. What should we pray for those hearing the Gospel?
9. Paul starts I Thessalonians 2:13 off with *“For this reason we also thank God without ceasing.”* What was the *“reason”* for Paul to be so thankful?

Friday: Action Items

Action Items We Can Engage In Prayer To Make Heaven Crowded

10. Make a plan to *regularly pray* for our missionaries. Pray that they will share the Gospel boldly.
11. In your prayers, pray for the Gospel to spread to the nations, especially to the unreached. Pray that the Gospel will be shared with clarity.
12. As you pray, pray that the Gospel will be received gladly by and that Heaven will be crowded from the tribes of the nations of the world.
13. Pray and ask what God would have you to be giving to our mission giving for next year.