



A few weeks ago, we began a series called "Advent." As we celebrate the advent season of anticipating the birth of Jesus, our study in 2 Thessalonians draws our attention to look forward to the return of Christ. Chapter one addressed the return of Christ and the judgment that will ensue when He does. Last week, the end-times nature of this book continued by talking about the man of lawlessness, known as the antichrist. Today, our passage addresses God's work in your own life. If you're a follower of Christ, this explains what God has done for you, what's going to happen to you, and what you're supposed to do.

Key Passage: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Discussion Questions:

1. Looking back at your notes, what encouraged or challenged you the most from the sermon?
2. Today's passage paints a picture of the incredible change that occurs in the lives of those who are saved. What are the most significant changes that you've seen in your life since being saved? What was your life like before you were saved?
3. Read Ephesians 1:3-4. These verses from Ephesians echo 2 Thessalonians 2 and remind us that God chose us for salvation before He had even created the world! How does this knowledge shape the way you live? How does it impact the way you feel about God and yourself? How does this truth help sustain you as you face various trials?
4. In verse 15, Paul urges the believers to "stand firm." What things, apart from the Word of God, are you tempted to stand upon? Where are you most tempted to waver? What insights can be drawn from today's passage regarding the balance between God's work and our active participation to stand firm?
5. Where do you tend to draw your strength when facing trials or uncertainty? What practical things can you do to rely on Christ more fully as your strength and firm foundation? What role do other believers play in helping you rely on Christ more fully (See Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and Galatians 6:2)?
6. Paul ends 2 Thessalonians 2 with a prayer. How might we use this prayer as a guide or launching pad to pray for and encourage one another this week?
7. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on this week?