

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18 *Never Grow Weary of Doing Good*

*A believer is always part of God's plan.

I. Prayer

- A. Paul asks for Prayer
- B. Define prayer
 - i. Henry Blackaby: Find out what God is already doing and join Him there.
 - ii. Avery Willis: When God reveals His will to us
 - iii. Actively being part of God's plan
- C. What do we pray about (SEA if nothing else comes to mind)
 - i. SEA
 - 1. Servants
 - 2. Each other
 - 3. Advancement of the gospel
 - ii. PUSH (is also a good reminder)
 - Pray Until Something Happens
 - iii. ACTS
 - 1. Adoration
 - 2. Confession
 - 3. Thanksgiving
 - 4. Supplication
- D. Spurgeon on prayer

“You cannot tell how much God's servants are helped by the prayers of his people. The strongest man in Israel will be better for the prayers of the weakest saint in Zion.” --CH Spurgeon

II. Perseverance

- A. Warning against idleness
 - i. Idle, lazy, undisciplined, disorderly
 - ii. In a sense of insufficient disciplined work in a disorderly or irresponsible manner
- B. How do we become idle?
 - i. Distracted: Focus on us instead of Christ
 - ii. Disillusioned: Lose hope in the work of Christ
- C. How do we overcome idleness?
 - i. Imitation
 - ii. Influence
 - iii. Inspiration

III. Peace

- A. Lord gives peace
- B. Lord gives peace in every situation (good and bad)
- C. Lord is always present with us (good and bad)
- D. “Peace is that calm of mind that is not ruffled by adversity, overclouded by a remorseful conscience, or disturbed by fear.” —Chuck Swindoll

IV. A believer uses faith over affliction by prayer, perseverance, and peace.

- A. Iceberg illustration used for many things
- B. Sometimes we think the tip is what we do and the underneath is what is God’s plan that we do not see
- C. Accuracy is tip is what we see happening; underneath is what we are doing we don’t see happening; everything else including the iceberg is God’s plan.
He is sovereign.

V. Live it Out

- A. Set a prayer time this week and practice prayer
- B. Track your time and see who you spend the most time on?
- C. Discover a calling by getting involved in a ministry

VI. A believer is always part of God's plan.