

## PRAYING FOR WORTHINESS AND FRUITFULNESS

### 2 THESSALONIANS 1:11-12

10-27-24

#### I. PAUL PRAYS FOR...

##### A. Worthiness in our calling

1. Two types of calling
  - a. Effectual Calling – Salvation
  - b. Holy Calling – Sanctification

1 John 3:1 - "See what kind of love the Father has given to us that we should be CALLED the children of God; and so we are!"

2. God can make us worthy of our calling in suffering

1 Peter 1:6-7 - "In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ"

##### B. Fruitfulness in our ministry

1. God develops in us new desires to minister
2. Apart from God's blessing...our ministries will be dead

Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."

#### II. SO THAT...

##### A. God is glorified in us

1. In everything, we should bring glory to God's name

##### B. We are glorified in Him

1. Present – Our glory is to be made more like Christ

2 Corinthians 3:20 - "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."

2. Future – God's glorification of us glorifies Himself

Romans 8:30 - "And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified"

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. How can you use Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians as a model for your prayer for other believers?
3. Paul knew the Thessalonians were being persecuted and he doesn't pray for it to stop...instead he prays for them to walk worthy. How is this different from the way that we pray for others? Why do we avoid praying these things for others?
4. How can suffering make us worthy of our calling? How can that same suffering prepare us for future glory?
5. Paul reminds the church that God is the power behind every good work and ministry...why is this an important thing for us to be reminded of today?
6. How does the result of God being glorified motivate us to walk worthy and pursue ministry?
7. What is one thing from the message or the group this week that you want to live out? How can the group be praying for you to accomplish that?

## PRAY FOR THE CHURCH

- Pray that God would continue to make us worthy of our calling as Christians
- Pray that we would fully grasp the richness of being called "sons of God"
- Pray that God would fulfill our endeavors to minister
- Pray that God would give our congregation desires to pursue ministry
- Pray that God's name would be glorified through our church...in our world