

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **September 19, 2021** Family Theme | **Standing Firm in Truth** Study Text | **2 Thessalonians 2:1-17**

Objective: Family members understand that certain events will take place before Christ returns. They choose to learn and practice God's revealed truth to help them stand firm until He comes.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set shortly after Paul's first letter to the new church in Thessalonica (around AD 51) as the gospel was being taken to all nations and peoples according to God's plan.

Bible Basics: Review the names and order of the first eight books of the Old Testament and the first eight books of the New Testament this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand some of the events that will precede Christ's second coming. Encourage them to put into practice the truths God has revealed in His Word so they can stand firm in faith.



Key Truth: The Evil Deceiver Will Be Revealed Before Christ Returns (2 Thessalonians 2:1-5)

Some serious misunderstanding of events related to the second coming of Christ troubled the Thessalonian congregation. Paul told the Thessalonians to avoid deception by recognizing that the Second Coming (*day of the Lord* in verse 2) would not take place until a rebellion occurred, and a man of lawlessness was revealed. This evil deceiver would try to set himself up above any and all deities, even proclaiming himself to be God in God's place. Deception is a danger to us if we do not guard against it. We must fill our minds and hearts with God's Word in order to know truth and recognize deception.



Key Truth: Evil Is Restrained Until the Time for the Evil Deceiver to Be Revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12)

Some of the lawlessness the Evil Deceiver will bring was already at work, but someone or something was actively restraining it. The lawless one is often associated with the idea of the Antichrist. He will have his own revelation when the restraining power goes away, only to be destroyed by Jesus when He comes again. The revealing of the lawless one will be accompanied by all kinds of lawless behavior, as well as deceptive signs of all sorts. Since those he deceives will spurn the truth, God will give them over to believe the lies they want to be true. Only by a profound love of the truth can believers avoid the great deception that is destroying unbelievers on a daily basis.



Key Truth: Holding to God's Revealed Truth Helps Us Stand Firm While Awaiting Christ's Return (2 Thessalonians 2:13-17)

The contrast between the believing Thessalonians and their unbelieving counterparts led Paul to give thanks. The unbelievers continued toward destruction through their persistence in wickedness and

unbelief. The believers stood firm in belief and in the truth. God had called them through the gospel. It was God's offer to them that allowed them to share in the Lord's glory. Since God had called them, they could have confidence and stand firm in the truth they had been taught.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What are some examples of false teaching and false philosophies in our culture?
- What can we do to guard ourselves from being deceived by false teaching?
- What did Paul say would happen before the day of the Lord comes?
- What kinds of things help us to endure and stay strong in our faith?
- How can we become so grounded in the truth that we cannot be deceived by the false teachings of the world?
- What will you do this week to make sure you are grounded in the truth of God's Word?
- **For Elementary:** What can we do to guard ourselves from being deceived by false teaching?
- **For Elementary:** Have you felt the Holy Spirit help you recognize a lie that goes against God's truth?

Everyday Extras

Run some plastic figures or animals through the dishwasher, then let your children add them to gelatin for dessert. Talk together about the way the gelatin congeals or sets as it cools. The toys are "planted" in it and not easily removed. That's the way we can be about God's truth. We are firmly set in it and cannot be moved.

Take the illustration a step further and talk about concrete. Remind your children that the mixture can be shaped and smoothed at first, but then it hardens into a very firm surface — firm enough to park a car on it, firm enough to require a jackhammer if you want to move it! We don't have gelatin truth from God's Word — we have concrete truth!

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned Paul wrote letters to the believers in Thessalonica to share God's message with them. Paul encouraged the people to show love to each other through their words. He also reminded the people to continue to love Jesus and talk to Him through prayer. **I Can Learn From God's Word** how to do these same things.