

# D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **September 26, 2021** Family Theme | **Standing Firm in Integrity** Study Text | **2 Thessalonians 3:1-18**

**Objective:** Family members understand that God wants His people to be hard workers, doing what is good and right at all times and holding each other accountable for ongoing disobedience.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** Like the previous lesson, this lesson is set around AD 51 as Paul wrote to the new believers in Thessalonica about some questions they had and situations they faced. He followed Christ's command to make disciples, teaching them all that Christ had commanded.

**Bible Basics:** Review Hebrews 11:6 and James 1:22 this week and work with family members to do so as well.

**Read the Word:** 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

## Disciple Your Kids

Make sure family members understand that God expects believers to work hard at whatever they are responsible for and to lovingly hold each other accountable for ongoing disobedience.



### **Key Truth: Believers Pray for One Another (2 Thessalonians 3:1-5)**

Paul asked the Thessalonians to pray for him. He continued to drive forward with the gospel and wanted the message of Christ to find acceptance among others, just as it had among the Thessalonians. It would not happen without prayer. Paul prayed that God's work among the believers would lead them to God's love and Christ's perseverance. Any hope we may have of living with integrity will require prayer and encouragement from other believers. They will in turn need ours. Church leaders need the prayers of those whom they lead, and the people of the congregation need the prayers of their leaders.



### **Key Truth: Believers Work to Support Themselves (2 Thessalonians 3:6-12)**

Paul heard that some of the Thessalonian believers were idle. They were not busy earning a living, but rather were busybodies. They could not be bothered to take care of their own affairs, but they apparently tried to run the affairs of their brothers and sisters in Christ. Paul told the church to separate from those who were idle. Living an idle life did not fit with the teaching Paul had given the church. To be idle is not in keeping with the character of God in whose image we are made. Paul reminded them of his own example. He and his companions did not live off the labor of the Thessalonians, even though they had the right to do so. They paid their own way. He had instructed them that those who would not work were not to eat.



### **Key Truth: Believers Hold Each Other Accountable for Ongoing Disobedience (2 Thessalonians 3:13-18)**

Paul urged the Thessalonian believers not to tire of doing the right thing, including helping those with legitimate needs. He recognized, however, that some would rather ignore his instructions and maintain their idle lifestyle, and he had strong instructions concerning such people: identify them and withdraw from them. Warn them as wayward brothers or sisters. This should cause them to be ashamed of their idleness.

# Discussion Starters

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

- What does it mean to live with integrity?
- Why is it important that we pray for one another as believers?
- What does it mean to be a responsible member of the community?
- What does it mean to be a responsible member of the church?
- How is hard work related to integrity?
- Why did Paul instruct believers to withdraw fellowship from church members who continue to live in sin?
- **For Elementary:** What does integrity mean?
- **For Elementary:** How can being a person of integrity show others you value your relationship with Jesus?

## Everyday Extras

Help your children learn that hard work is commendable. Have a family work day project — cleaning out the garage, raking leaves, winterizing the house, washing windows or carpets, or some other all-hands-on-deck chores. Or you can take the work day on the road and labor for your church building or a needy neighbor. Make sure everyone in the family has a part in accomplishing the work.

When you talk about it later, discuss the benefits of the work — for your home (or church or friend) and for you personally. How did you feel after the work was finished? Even from Creation, God has given us meaningful work to do. Laziness does not honor Him, but hard work does!

## Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned Paul wrote letters to remind the believers in Thessalonica to get along and be patient with each other. He told them to be joyful always, pray continuously, and give thanks in everything. Your child also heard Webster Family stories to remind them of truths from God's Word. **I Can Learn From God's Word.**