

Prayer Concerns:

To the Church of the Thessalonians
Thessalonians 1:1 [Page 1837] & Acts 17:1-9 [Page 1722]

The gospel comes to Thessalonica. [Acts 17:1-9]

The church in God.

The church (*ekklesia*) is the people of God called together by Him to _____, _____, and _____ Him.

Church is not about _____—it's about _____

The Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus: The Son of God who humbled Himself and died on the cross.

Christ: The Messiah who conquered death by His resurrection.

Lord: Our reigning Lord in this life and the life to come.

Grace and peace.

Grace empowers us to _____, _____, and _____ the Lord.

Peace is the _____ and _____ that comes from a _____ with God.

To the Church of Ossipee and the Lakes Region.

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. What teams did you belong to as a child? Of which were you most proud?

Digging Deeper:

Read Acts 17:1-9

1. What was the response to Paul's preaching in Thessalonica, both positively and negatively? What kind of reaction can you anticipate from those you tell of your faith in Christ?
2. Since his conversion, this is the sixth time Paul has been forced by persecution to leave an area. How would you view your mission if that happened to you?

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1

3. This letter was from Paul, Silas, and Timothy. What does this tell us about the importance of team ministry?

4. The Greek word for "church" is *ekklesia*. It means "assembly." In Paul's day, an *ekklesia* could mean a social group, a political gathering, etc. But when applied to the church, *ekklesia* takes on a whole new meaning. What makes the church unique in the world?
5. Paul refers to Jesus as the Lord Jesus Christ. Each name carries deep meaning. What do these three names tell us about Jesus?
6. What do grace and peace mean for your relationship with God? How do they affect your relationships with others?

Taking it Home:

1. Are you living in the grace and peace of God? Are there areas in which you've become judgmental toward others? Do you struggle with anxiety? Claim God's grace and peace right now.