

***STUDYING THE BOOK OF 2 THESSALONIANS***  
***IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS***

**Lesson 1 - Thanksgiving and Prayer - [2 Thessalonians 1:1-12](#)**

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

*Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.*

2TH 1:1 Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2TH 1:2 Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2TH 1:3 We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. [4] Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

2TH 1:5 All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. [6] God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you [7] and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. [8] He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. [9] They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power [10] on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

2TH 1:11 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. [12] We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

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1. To whom is this letter addressed? ([1:1](#))
2. Who wrote this letter? ([1:1](#))

3. Why did Paul thank God for the church at Thessalonica? ([1:3](#))
4. What was the reputation of the church at Thessalonica? ([1:4](#))
5. What difficulties was the church at Thessalonica experiencing? ([1:4](#))
6. What do persecution and trials prove about God's work in the church and the world? ([1:5](#))
7. How will God deal with unbelievers and believers alike? When? ([1:6-7](#))
8. When will God reward and punish people? ([1:7](#))
9. For what reason will God punish people? ([1:8](#))
10. How did Paul describe the punishment of those who reject Christ? ([1:9](#))
11. What will believers experience when they see the Lord Jesus? ([1:10](#))
12. What was Paul's prayer for the church at Thessalonica? ([1:11-12](#))