

Devoted Disciple

Series 5: Kingdom Family
Gospel Fellowship

10 Daily Scripture Passages
1 Thessalonians- Titus 3
Personal Time,
Paired Discussion,
Participating in Fellowship

5. Kingdom Family: (Overview Page)

□ 1. Gospel Fellowship

1 Thessalonians- Titus

Overview: (Booklet Overview)

When you are baptized as a disciple of Jesus Christ, you are reborn into a spiritual family (Mt. 28:19-20), the very family of God! This family gathers around God as your Father and Jesus Christ as your family Lord, so we learn to devote ourselves as first to God, the Head of our family, and one another as Spirit-born brothers and sisters. Membership in this Kingdom Family shapes all our relationships, especially our own households in this life. So, let's devote ourselves to life in this Gospel-formed Fellowship of our Kingdom Family! May the Grace and Peace of our Father bless you!

Devoted to the Lord:

30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Mark 12:30.

As Jesus instructed us, we are to *love the Lord our God* with all that we have, with all our lives. In the Bible, such love is a *giving* love, to present to him all of who you are... heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Importantly, we give, that is, *devote* ourselves to him every day. Why? Because it is too easy to lose focus and give ourselves to unworthy things. We give ourselves up to the *flesh*, to live merely in satisfying our own desires. To the world and its agendas and anxieties, following its own purposes. And, even to things such as career, ambition, or greed.

To keep your faith focused on God and your love given faithfully to Him, have regular *devotional times* with the Lord. Every day, in the morning or some other good time, commit to meeting with the Lord in *devotion*. This booklet helps you go through keep Bible passages to hear from God and share with your friends, family, and fellowship groups. Start here!

Devote yourself to the Lord God: At the start of every devotional, use the Checklist below to Devote All of who you are to the Lord! Position yourself to hear the Word from Him in *faith*. *Do you have a...*



- Do I want to humble myself under the Lord God by faith?
- Will I live as my own Lord, relying on my own understanding?

Prayer of Devotion: Lord God, I devote myself to you today: In soul—humbling myself under your Lordship; In mind—to know you and your Word by *faith*; In heart—to love Jesus and the Father to do your will; and in soul—to give my life to you as a living sacrifice! Please teach me now by your Holy Spirit, that I might be live out your holy Word! In Jesus name, Amen

☐1. Gospel Family: Before Father in Lord Jesus

Read 1 Thessalonians 1

How do we live together as a Kingdom Family?

3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 1:3**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: What is the Grace and Peace that the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ give us? How does this grace and peace help us to live together in His spiritual family?

QA: How does Jesus Christ powerfully change us by His Gospel as we are given new life by the Spirit?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How shall we live together in our new life in God and Jesus? (1 Thess. 1:1-3)

1.Family Focus: Before Father and In Lord: As members of His family, God, the *Father* of our family, and Jesus Christ, the *Lord* and firstborn Heir of our family, give us their *grace and peace* (1:1). So, we *belong* in the family, receiving their righteous life. Like pleasing children, we live *before* our God and Father (3) to produce the *work of faith*, to *labor in love*, and be *steadfast in our hope* of our Lord's full and total redemption (3).

Q2. Why is the Gospel the start of our new life in the Family of God? (1:4-7)

2. Life-changing Gospel: Power and Conviction: The *gospel* comes to us not only as a powerful message but with the very life-changing power of God! So, we share the *word* of the Gospel, but God supplies its impact of *power* and in the *Holy Spirit* (1:5). Then as now, the *gospel convicts* hearts so we might *imitate* our family predecessors to endure *affliction* with the Spirit's *joy* (1:6). Responding to the Gospel means we Godly way of our entire family!

Q3. How does the Gospel bear fruit in our lives together as a family? (1:8-10)

3. Faithful Living: Word and Waiting: When we have a fruitful faith, like the Thessalonians, our *faith* is worked out in our loves as *faithful action*. By faith, we spread the *word of the Lord* in our communities, as it spread in Macedonia and Achaia (8). Fruitful faith also takes shape as repentance and service to God (9). And, our fruitful faith turns our hope to the *Son of God*, who comes to deliver his people from the *wrath to come* (10).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How can I live a life blessed by the Lord?

5.1. Gospel Family: Before Father in Lord Jesus: As the *church*, you are precious to God, your Father, and Jesus Christ, your Lord (1:1). Like Paul, we must *remember* this one truth—we live always *before* our *God and Father*, pleasing him as His very own children. And, we live *in* the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ (3).

In our Lord Jesus Christ, we *work in faith*. Trusting and entrusting yourself to His Lordship, you bear fruit in Jesus! Together, you *labor in love*! Sacrificially, you *labor in love* as if in the throes of *delivery*, enduring hardship to *birth* new life and encouragement in your fellowship! And, you are *steadfast* together as you *hope* in the coming of our Lord!

So, do not shy away from hardship, for everything valuable is proven through such suffering. The Gospel gave you new birth not conveniently but in *power* and the painful *conviction* of changed lives! (1:5). So, endure *affliction* with *joy from the Holy Spirit* (6) to be role models of the life-giving Word and Worship of the true God (9), as you await the coming of our Lord! (10).

Notes¹: Faith, Love, and Hope. The Gospel of Jesus Christ creates a family life together characterized by *faith, love, and hope*. Faith focuses us on the past work of redemption of Jesus Christ, prompting us to *work* to proclaim this finished work to others. Love moves us to *labor* for our brothers and sisters now, meeting their needs by our sacrificial love and giving. And, hope makes us *steadfast*, as we set our hearts on our coming Lord Jesus Christ (1:3).

¹ **Notes: the Gospel:** The Gospel is *euangelion*—“good” (that is, good for life, life-giving) “message” (angelion—preached by God-given messengers). This life-giving message reveals Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God and Heir of Mankind (Mark 1:1) chosen to *redeem* us from this dark world back into the family and Kingdom of God!

□2. Parental Leaders: Caring like Mothers and Fathers

Read 1 Thessalonians 2.

How should servants of the Gospel care for younger members in the faith?

2 But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.

1 Thessalonians 2:2

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How can we shepherd our households as parents and leaders, following Paul's parental example?

QA: In the family, why must parental shepherding be both caring—loving our flock just as they are—but also encouraging—urging them to move forward in Godliness?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. What qualifies Paul and his team to declare the Gospel? (1 Thess. 2:1-6)

1. Approved Shepherds: Bringing Gospel: a: Servants of the Gospel are approved by God, who is the one who *tests the heart* (2:4). God alone sees the spiritual reality of the heart, and he knows that Paul and his team have sincere hearts: not *greedy* or self-glorifying (5-6). Rather, their hearts are humbly sacrificial, enduring *shameful treatment* and *conflict* to bring the Gospel (2).

Q2. How do servants of the Gospel give *motherly care* to their people? (2:7-10)

2.Gentle Care: Sharing Gospel and Life: When the Lord God entrusts His people to the care of His servants, he expects them to be *possessively protective*—like a nursing mother caring for her own needy children (2:7). This *motherly care* is *gentle* because it understands the helpless need of its people. And, it is *generously giving* because these servants share not just the Gospel but their very lives as well (8). Serving on behalf of their heavenly Father, these Gospel servants saw their people as *dear* (8).

Q3. How do servants of the Gospel give *fatherly encouragement* to their people? (2:11-13)

3.Strong Encouragement: Exhorting and Charging: Servants of the Gospel not only *nurture* new disciples as they are but also *encourage* them to grow and progress in their faith! (12). Servants of the Gospel *exhort* the younger ones to *act* in faith, *encourage* them to be strong and courageous (Josh. 1:9), and *charge* them to fulfill their God-given callings and duties. In all things, we are to live worthy of God's Kingdom and glory (12).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How should servants of the Gospel care for younger members in the faith?

5.2. Parental Leaders: Caring like Mothers and Fathers: God cares for His people as His own family, raised up and protected under the Lordship of His precious Son, Jesus Christ. As in any family, the older members care for and help the younger ones grow up. In our family, God appoints *approved leaders* (2:4) to bring *new life* through the Gospel (2:2). Has the Lord used you to share the Gospel and helped a dear one find new life in Jesus Christ?

Then, care for these younger ones as gently as a *nursing mother* nurturing her own children (2:7). New life hungers to grow, so feed these young ones God's *good news* of Jesus. Teach them to know and follow him as their Lord!

As your dear people grow up in the Lord, *encourage* them like a *father* to get stronger, *exhorting* and *guiding* them to take the steps of *faith* to obey the Lord! (11).

Remember, it is the Lord who approves and appoints you to this family work of growth. When share the Word, your people should accept it as coming from the Lord who sends you! (13).

Notes²: Approved for Service: As members of the Lord's family, Paul and his fellow servants of the Gospel shared a responsibility to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his coming Kingdom. Likewise, God still calls His *servants* to preach the Gospel (2:2). Because God calls us into service, He also must *approve us...* to determine we can be entrusted *with the Gospel*. In all our service, we seek entirely to *please God* and not people, not even our hearers. For we preach not for Selfish Gain but God's glory! (4)

² **Notes: Receiving Word of God (2:13):** When people hear the Word of God preached, they can listen as if it is simply imperfect and earthly information. But, those who realize that it is God's very Word being given to them, their hearts can respond in *faith*—to value the Word as having spiritual power that can give them a new life (1 Peter 1:23). Spiritual food to feed their souls (Matt. 4:4). And, a seed to bear fruit in their lives (Matt. 13:23).

☐3. Strong Faith: Establishing and Exhorting.

Read 1 Thessalonians 3

How can we live by and strengthen one another's faith?

2 and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith.

1 Thess. 3:2

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: As a spiritual household, how can we all grow and strengthen one another's faith in the Lord?

QA: How can we support each other to keep our faith strong, even in afflictions?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How can we all be faithful in affliction? (1 Thess. 3:1-5)

1. Faithful in Affliction: establishing one another's faith: God's servants of the Gospel have a family responsibility for the faith of their people. So, Paul and his team were unsettled until they knew the faith of their people was secure. The team sent Timothy to strengthen faith by *establishing it* (2)—securing it in the foundation of Jesus Christ by the Word of God; and, *exhorting* them *in* their faith, urging them to put faith to action.

Q2. When others make me angry, how can I keep from sin? (3:6-8)

2. Growing Faith: celebrating strong faith. When Paul's team of servants heard reports of *good news*—indications of a living faith (6) as well as hearts full of tender *love* for each other, then the team experienced God's *comfort* (7). Notice their reaction—their *lives* were intertwined with their people so this good report allowed them to *live* knowing they were *standing fast in the Lord* (8).

Q3. How will my faith differ from faith set entirely on earthly good? (3:9-13)

3. Strengthening Faith: that all may stand in the Lord. Thus, we see our family life is *perfected* only when all members are standing in the Lord (9). Until then, we pray to *supply what is lacking* (10). This prayer begins with a desire for faith-building contact (11). Faith is best built when the Lord *directs our way* to see one another. Then, faith thrives when it is *abounds in love*—strengthening the family's bond for one another in a Father-pleasing unity. Finally, faith preserves us as our hearts are holy and blameless before our Father to await our Lord Jesus and family reunion.

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How will my heart find relief when others shame and anger me?

5.3. Strong Faith: Establishing and Exhorting. Paul realized that in the family of God, we are responsible for one another's faith! Older ones for younger ones. Strong for the weak. Our lives and joy are inseparably tied to how our *spiritual family members* are doing in the Lord! (3:8). Will you help your brother or sister grow in faith?

Our faith will keep us rooted in the Lord, especially in our times of *affliction!* (3:2-3). Faith—trusting and entrusting ourselves to Jesus Christ as our Lord—begins with the Gospel (1 Thess. 1:5), but we need one another to *establish* (3:2) and *supply what is missing* in faith (10).

Establish shaky faith by turning hearts to Jesus Christ, the assuring anchor of our faith (Heb. 12:2). *Exhort* intellectual or passive faith to *be active and walk by faith* in their lives (2 Cor. 5:7).

When their *faith* is strong, they will bear the fruit of *love* (11) and a *holiness* (13) to be perfected when faith becomes sight at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints!

Notes³: Strong Faith. Weak faith is powerless to protect its believers in affliction. So, servants of the Gospel seek to build strong faith that *stands firm in the Lord* (8), being securely rooted both in the Gospel truth of His Word as well as the active *obedience to it* through an abounding *love* (12). Such strong faith is uniformly spread throughout the family of faith, so that the entire congregation lives in *holy and blameless* heartfelt worship of our God and Father, awaiting the coming of our Lord Jesus to unite us.

³ **Notes: Father's Pleasure in Faith:** Ultimately, the faith of the Family and its members pleases their God and Father because it embodies their shared family life together. Afflicted faith reveals the *holy life* born of the Gospel, saving a people destined for God and taken from this corrupted earth (3-4). Living faith reveals that we all share a *life* as members of one body, so that faith of the youngest equals the faith of the elders (8). And, this loving faith unifies us as pleasing children of our Father and coming Lord Jesus (13).

□4. Pleasing God: Holy at the Lord's Coming

Read 1 Thessalonian 4

How should we live together until the Lord's Coming?

Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more.

1 Thessalonians 4:1

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: As a spiritual family, how can we grow in holiness to please the Lord God?

QA: Why should we keep encouraging one another about the Lord's certain coming for us on that day?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How can we together walk to please God? (1 Thess. 4:1-8)

1. Pleasing God: Sanctified and Holy. God wants us to walk with him in *sanctification* (3). That is, we offer our entire lives to him to please him and to do his will. To offer our lives to God, we must first start by offering our *bodies* to him. For, giving our bodies over to *the passion of lust* and *sexual immorality* shows a life ignorant of God and his holy ways (5). The Lord will punish such immoral living because we transgress both God and our other family members (6).

Q2. How does the Father himself teach us to live together? (4:9-12)

2. Living Responsibly: Love and Work. As the Father of our household, God desires that we live together responsibly in *love*. God is *love* (1 Jn. 4:8), so he personally teaches his children to *love one another* as brothers and sisters responsible for each other (9). Even before *outsiders*, we are to be a family living responsibly, working hard to display the integrity of our family to an unreliable world (12).

Q3. What future do we hope for as a family? (4:13-18)

3. Meeting the Lord: With the Lord Forever. Living together as the Family of God is not a vain effort, having value only in this passing world. Earthly families grieve as those who have no hope (13), for they realize that their family unity will inevitably end in death and loss. However, our family realizes that our Lord *died and rose* to give us a resurrected hope, knowing that one day those who *sleep* and we who are *alive* will one day be reunited at His coming (15). The entire family, whether in heaven or on earth, focuses on the great *meeting in the clouds* reuniting us all (17).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How will the Lord's Steadfast Love lead me home in righteousness?

5.4. Pleasing God: Holy at Return of Christ: When God called you to belong to His Family in the Lord Jesus Christ, he brought you into His family purpose and relationships.

In our family, your first priority is to learn to *walk with the Father to please him* (4:1). Offer your life to the Lord in *sanctification* (3) to honor and serve him.

Be holy especially in your sexuality, for our bodies are meant to belong to God in *holiness* and not given to impure *passions* of this dark world (4-5).

As we live together in God-pleasing holiness, the Father himself will teach us our family's best quality, a *brotherly love* for one another! (9)

Live your life in our family in *holy devotion* and *faithful love*, until the certain day when the Lord of our House brings us all home to the Father!

Notes⁴: Return of Jesus Christ. Understand that Jesus Christ's promised return fulfills the Lord's promise to establish an eternal kingdom and throne for the Messiah, the Son of David (2 Sam. 7:16; Is. 9:6-7). The Lord's return, and his establishing of God's eternal Kingdom, is staged as he reveals himself to three distinct peoples: first to the church, resurrecting His saints to share in his resurrection (1 Cor. 15:51-52); then to Israel, triggering a national repentance and revival (Zech. 12:10); and finally to all nations, causing a worldwide regret (Rev. 1:7) as He replaces all thrones with his own.

⁴ **Notes:** Caught up...in the clouds: After the church-age concludes, the Lord *comes* to give His saints their eternal *inheritance* (1 Cor. 15:50) and to gather them as the *armies of heaven* (Ps. 110:3; Joel 2:11) ready to accompany him in His victory campaign over earth (Rev. 19:14). Promising to *keep them from* earth's hour of trial (Rev. 3:10), the Lord descends to take His saints (Mt. 24:40) to meet him in the clouds of resurrected saints (1 Thess. 4:17) to be with the Lord forever.

☐5. Day of the Lord: Darkness to Daylight

Read 1 Thessalonians 5

How should I live as Darkness Grows before Day of the Lord?

5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. **1 Thessalonians 5:5-6.**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How can we walk in the light of the Lord so that we do not participate in the world's darkness, which the Lord will judge on that day?

QA: What are the *drunken* ways of the world's darkness that we must avoid as the Lord's people of light, living with our Father in sober Godliness?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. What should we know about the times and seasons so we are not caught by surprise? (1 Thess. 5:1-4)

1. Day of the Lord: Pain and Judgment. The world expects *peace and security* as it hides in its Godless darkness (5:3). However, the Lord God foretells that this season of *darkness* will end with the *Day of the Lord* when the Lord reveals His glorious power and irresistible rule (2). Following the *evacuation of the saints* (1 Thess. 4:17), the world is afflicted with the *labor pains* (5:3; Matt. 24:4-8; Rev. 6:1-17) of world-wide calamities which culminate in the Day of the Lord when Jesus appears to Israel for its salvation (Zech. 12:10).

Q2. How should we live as the world descends into darkness? (5:5-11)

2. Living in Light: Awake not Asleep in Dark. The new birth by the Holy Spirit clothes the saints in *daylight* (5:5), being the children of the Father's light. Because His *life* is at work in us, we live *awake* and *sober* (6) as we live by His life-giving faith. We do not partake in the deadly sleep of lawless sin with the rest of the world (6), which *drunkenly stumbles* into God's *wrath* (7, 9). Encouraging each other's faith, we are strengthened to *live with him* in the light of His presence (10).

Q3. How will the God of peace work through us so that we present ourselves to him blameless at the Lord's coming? (5:12-25)

3. Completely Sanctified: Blameless at His Coming. The Lord's destined work is to *sanctify*—to claim us wholly for himself in *spirit, soul, and body* so that we stand *blameless* to meet the Lord Jesus Christ at His coming (5:23). He accomplishes this work first through His servants, who *labor* among the saints with the Lord's *oversight* and *admonishment* (5:12). Then, he works through each one for mutual *encouragement*, so that we might all be thankful to the Lord *in all circumstances* through joyful and continuous prayer (16-18).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How should I live as Darkness Grows before Day of the Lord?

5.5. Day of the Lord: Darkness to Daylight. Awakened into the light of our Lord, we are not meant to live in the darkness of this unholy world. Rather, the Lord promises that the *Day of the Lord* (5:2) will soon displace this world's unholy *darkness*. So, let us be found *blameless* when the Lord returns.

We should not live in this world's *darkness*, for the *day of the Lord* will surprise this Godless world, catching earth's people by surprise (5:3). *Expecting peace*, their darkness will become increasingly *painful* until the Day of the Lord brings *sudden destruction* (3).

Rather, the Lord has *destined* you for life in the *daylight* of his holy life (8). Now, your *life* in the Lord Jesus protects you by *faith* and *love* (8).

When you live awakened in faith and love, you will look to the future with hope, *rejoicing and praying always* as you prepare to be found *blameless* at his Coming!

Notes⁵: Blameless at the Lord's Coming. As the God of *peace*, the Lord reconciles all things to Himself through Christ's *peace* on the cross (Col. 1:20) and also prepares His people to one day be forever joined to their reconciling redeemer (5:23). So, the Father works all things to sanctify you and all of us to be *blameless* in Christ's presence. He sanctifies your *spirit* by a cleansing and purified faith (1 Pet. 1:7); your *soul* as you become perfected through affliction to be conformed to His image (Rom. 8:29; 5:3-4, James 1:2-4); and *body* as you abstain from the corrupting sin of the world (1 Thess. 4:3).

⁵ **Notes: Day of the Lord:** The Day of the Lord refers to the *revealing of the Lord's Messiah* to the people of earth—first to His saints as He saves them from global testing (Rev. 3:10), then to Israel as the Redeemer removes Godlessness and unbelief from His people (Zech. 12:10; Rom. 11:26); then, to all the nations to fight against His enemies (Zech. 14:3-4).

□6. Steadfast in Affliction: Glorifying Lord

Read 2 Thessalonians 1

How does the Lord work through our Afflictions?

6 since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. **2 Thessalonians 1:6-7.**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How might our growing *faith* and *love* help us as a spiritual family overcome the afflictions and persecutions of this world?

QA: How might we glorify the Lord even in the midst of our afflictions and persecutions?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How can we endure afflictions and persecutions? (2 Thess. 1:1-4)

1. Abounding Faith and Love: God's Good Work: For God's people, *persecutions* and *afflictions* arise as our *kingdom of light* advances against this world's *kingdom of darkness*. But, our faithful God works to make our *faith grow abundantly* and our *love for one another increase* (1:3). Only by God's faithful work can we *endure* through these persecutions and afflictions (4).

Q2. Why does the Lord allow us to suffer hardship? (1:5-10)

2. Qualifying Proof: Hardship shows we Belong. As the righteous judge, God allows these *persecutions and afflictions* as *irrefutable proof* that we belong as worthy heirs of the Kingdom of God (5). And, our *afflictions* also reveal God's justice to *repay* our tormentors with affliction when our Lord Jesus Christ is *revealed* (1:7). At the moment of God's revealed judgment, we will finally feel the *relief* of being unburdened from this world's animosity (7). This moment of judgment also *reveals and glorifies* our Lord's marvelous *power* (10), as our faith is finally proven right!

Q3. How can I withstand the Lord's judgment? (1:11-12)

3. Worthy of Calling: Glorifying Lord. Truly, the Lord Jesus calls us not to *wrath* but to glorify Him as His coming draws near (11). As His people we prove our commitment as we first set our hearts to *glorify the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*. Then, the Lord glorifies our lives in Christ by powerfully *fulfilling every resolve for good and every work of faith* (11).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How does the Lord work through our afflictions?

6.6. Steadfast in Affliction: Glorifying Lord. There is no greater honor than to be *called* to join God’s Kingdom Family (1:11). When God calls you, he also proves to the world through affliction that you and the rest of His family are worthy of your calling!

So, He first makes your *faith* and *love* grow *abundantly* in the family, as you all face *persecutions* and *afflictions* together (1:3-4). And, this growth is a direct answer to *prayer*, as you lift each other up as brothers and sisters!

Don’t fear, for God is the *righteous judge* who is proving your *place* in the Kingdom of God (5). Eventually, God judges in your favor when the Lord Jesus executes his fiery verdict against all who have afflicted you (7).

So, do good even in *affliction* to see the Father work powerfully by your faith to glorify the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! (12).

Notes⁶: Kingdom of God. The Lord God has always planned for the family “generations” of Adam to inherit the “heavens” and the “earth” (Gen. 2:4). And, over these sons, God’s chosen Heir, the Son of God (Ps. 2:7-8) and the Son of Man (Ps. 8:4-6). Despite humanity’s fall into sin, the Lord God still promises His Chosen Son, the Messiah, to redeem a people (2 Sam. 7:14) to build an eternal house (13) to rule with him over an eternal kingdom (16). The Kingdom of God is the rightful rule of God’s chosen Messiah over all of heaven and earth.

⁶ **Notes:** Jesus Christ Revealed (2 Thess. 1:7): Jesus Christ is revealed in a heavenly glory to a rebellious humanity, causing *all tribes of the earth to wail* (Rev. 1:7). Having secured the Kingdom as His rightful inheritance (Rev. 5), Jesus ransomed as sacrificial Lamb the redeemed sons of God (1:5-6) to make them priests and kings to rule with him the Kingdom (5:9).

☐7. Lawless Times: Standing Firm in the Lord

Read 2 Thessalonians 2

How can we stand firm in increasingly lawless times?

3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, **2 Thessalonians 2:3**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How must we live wisely as a spiritual family as the world becomes increasingly lawless?

QA: How might we stay *safe* in the Lord by the Spirit and the Word of Truth as we await the *glory* of our Lord Jesus Christ?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How does Paul explain the timeline of the events of the Lord's *coming* and our ingathering? (2 Thess. 2:1-3)

1. Lawlessness before Day of Lord: The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and our ingathering to him is our source of hope, but some fear that the Lord has already come. Lest we be deceived, we should know that the Lord Jesus *gathers us to Himself first* (2:1), after which comes the Antichrist's rebellion (2:3) and then the Day of the Lord (2) when Jesus Christ comes to defeat him and rule over the earth.

Q2. What are the lawless events that precede the return of Jesus Christ? (2:4-8)

2. Removing Restraints: Sanctifying Spirit and True Faith. The Coming of Jesus Christ occurs in this way. First, the *mystery of lawlessness* will be at work secretly in this world (2:7); then, the Holy Spirit restraining the Antichrist will be taken out of the way at the Church's ingathering (7); only then will the *lawless one*, the Antichrist, be revealed (8), and he will *rebel against and blaspheme God* (3); finally, the Day of the Lord comes when the Lord brings Antichrist *to nothing* (8).

Q3. How do the saints of God live differently compared to those who follow the Antichrist? (9:9-17).

3. Strengthened by Grace: Hearts established in Work and Word. The people of earth turn to the Antichrist because they *take pleasure* in unrighteous (9), and they hold to what is *false* instead of what is *true* (11). On the other hand, God chose us as the *firstfruits* to experience salvation (13), for after us comes a great harvest of salvation (13).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How can we stand firm in increasingly lawless times?

5.7. Lawless Times: Standing Firm in the Lord: With the Day of the Lord, the light of God's Kingdom dispels the dark rule of Satan over the earth. However, before the Lord's Christ is revealed to the earth, Satan's Lawless Antichrist must first turn the world against God in open rebellion (2:1). So, do not be shaken, for this world-wide rebellion signals the coming Day of the Lord!

In this age, the *encroaching lawlessness* can only operate as a *hidden and mysterious darkness* (7). For, as the Holy Spirit still works to *sanctify* God's children and your *faith* holds to and proclaims God's truth (13), this lawless one is *restrained and remains hidden* (6).

So, there are two paths forward. Those who choose *pleasurable unrighteousness* and *reject* God's truth are vulnerable to Satan's increasingly lawless works (9). But, we who glorify our Father God and our Lord Jesus Christ abound in every *good work and word!* (17)

Notes⁷:Mystery of Lawlessness. Lawless unbelief is an ancient *mystery* tracing back to the sin of our first parents (Gen. 3:5-7). By rejecting God's Lordship to be *like God* (3:5), our parents abandoned faith in the Lord's lawful command to do whatever they saw as *good* and *evil*—they became lawless. So, the woman came up with reasons to sin. Now, in our current age, people flagrantly ignore God's law to do what seems right in their eyes—choosing evil and perversion as the standard of human morality.

⁷ **Notes: Man of Lawlessness (4):** Man was made to bear God's image in righteousness but rejected God's righteousness for unbelieving lawlessness. So, the embodiment of humanity's rejection of God's image of *lawful righteousness* is the Antichrist, the man of *lawlessness* (2 Thess. 2:23). This Antichrist denies God's Messiah, for the Christ restores God's *righteous image* to humanity by His cross (1 John 2:22). Thus, Antichrist is called *the Beast*, bearing not the lawful, righteous image of God but being a creature of the earth.

□8. Spreading Word: Doing Good in Lord's Peace

Read 2 Thessalonians 3

What speeds or slows down the preaching of the Lord's Word?

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you.... 5 May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. **2 Thess. 3:1, 5**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How should we live as a family, knowing that the Lord is *faithful, loving, and steadfast*?

QA: Why does the Lord want us to spread His Word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How does the Lord spread the Word of God through His people? (2 Thess. 3:1-5):

1.Guarded to Spread Word: Faithful God Establishes: The Lord has set His heart on spreading the Word of God through His people, for it is the Gospel that brings life to the world (1 Pet. 1:23). So, Paul first prays for the Word to spread through the Thessalonians (3:1). In faithfulness, the Lord *establishes* and *guards* them from the *evil one* (3). They need the Lord to *establish them*, to root them in the Word so that they can spread it. And, he must *guard* them from Satan's work to sow unbelief in them.

Q2. How does Paul show a lifestyle prepared to share the Word? (2 Thess. 3:6-9).

2. Proven Testimonies: Laboring to Spread Word : Some wrongly think that preaching the Gospel involves only words. But, Paul commands the Thessalonians to live *faithfully in the Lord Jesus Christ* (3:6) and not in *lazy idleness*. Paul *labored night and day* for the honor of sharing the Word of God (8). Not *burdening* and taking advantage of his people but living sacrificially (8). It is this zealous, hard-working life that shows that we are ready to *sacrifice* to bring the Word of God!

Q3. What is the secret behind Paul's tireless service to the Lord and His people? (3:13-17).

3. Tirelessly Serving: Strong Peace. In each of us, it is our *spirit* that draws an unseen power from the Lord, strengthening us to endure even *sickness* (Prov. 18:14). But, a *crushed spirit* is unbearable. We are most powerful when our *spirits* rest in the Lord of peace, knowing His Lordship that overrules all opposition, affliction, and threat in our lives to give us *peace* (1 Thess. 3:16). In God's peace, we can serve without growing *weary*, as Paul did (13).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How does the Lord Strengthen the Hearts of His Poor People in the midst of Godlessness?

5.8. Spreading Word: Doing Good in Lord's Peace: In the family of God, we live in this world but labor spiritually for our Father's Kingdom. So, we labor not in our own strength but according to the *faithfulness* of the Lord, who alone can *establish us* and *guard us against the evil one* (3). For, only in the Lord's power will the *word of the Lord speed ahead* and be honored as it transform this worldly flesh into *Kingdom disciples* (1).

Because it is for the Kingdom and by the Lord's power that we labor, we do not grow *weary* (13) in doing the Lord's good will, but we *labor selflessly* (8) for the benefit of our brothers and sisters.

Those unwilling to work but are *idle* and *busybodies* (11)—acting without purpose or mind to please God—become oddly out-of-place in our Kingdom family.

In your laboring, have you experienced troubling opposition? Know that the Lord of peace will give you *peace at all times and in every way* by His presence with you (16). So, press on to do good!

Notes⁸: Hard Work: Laboring for the Lord. Paul describes *hard work* in terms of the *labor of love*, and this labor of love, along with faith and hope, are the key actions of Kingdom life (1:3). For, if we have this *love* from God, we will work hard in the *labor of love*. Such labor for others pleases God, because this labor is sacrificial, taking a toll on the laborer but benefiting the one loved!

⁸ **Notes: Lord of Peace:** The Lord God created man to live with him in peace, resting in His Lordship and His promise to provide *rest* (shabbat) and *peace* (shalom). In this way, to live by faith is to *rest in the Lord's peace*. In this way, Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath (Mt. 12:8) He restores us under His all-power to our original faith, abiding in the blessing and peace of God. Striving in our *helpless flesh* leads to fleshly works, but resting in His Lordship frees us to serve in rest and peace.

☐9. Gospel Fellowship: Orderly Family

Read Titus 1-2

How are we called to live in orderly fellowship as the Family Saved by the Gospel?

waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Titus 2:13-14.

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How does God bless us so that we can show we belong to God and are eager to do *good works* to please him?

QA: How can we teach and learn from one another as a family so that we all grow in the truth of God?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How does our God and Savior command us to live together as a family? (1:1-16)

1. Command of our God and Savior: Orderly Family Living: Our great God and Savior commands the preaching of the *word of life* (Titus 1:2-3), which brings spiritual *children* like Titus (4) into the *grace and peace* of our Father God and our Savior, Jesus Christ. As a family, we are to live together in an orderly household (5), submitting to the household *elders* appointed by the Father. Unfit for our household are those *disobedient deniers* of God (16).

Q2. Why should we live self-controlled lives of good works? (2:1-10).

2. Adorning the truth of our God and Savior: Good Works done by Faith:

Since our family thrives as the Word of God reveals Jesus Christ as Savior, our teaching must be *sound*—that is, healthy and good for growth (1). Living *self-controlled lives together, starting with our family elders (2-3)*, adorns our teaching, reflecting the way our God and Savior rules as the Lord of Peace (2 Thess. 3:16) in self-controlled lives (2:2) full of good—that is, life-giving-- works (6).

Q3. How does the Salvation of Jesus, our great God and Savior, make us zealous for good works? (2:11-15)

3. Appearing of our Great God and Savior: Purified as His Possession. As our *Great God and Savior*, Jesus *purifies us as a people of His own possession (14)*. Because we are secure in His salvation, we no longer need to pursue impure *lawlessness* but are free to live *self-controlled lives (12)*. We no longer need to seek *worldly passions* as our only source of good, for God's grace meets our needs as a foretaste of our *glorious and blessed hope* which is ours when Jesus appears, so we wait patiently (12-13).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How are we called to live in orderly fellowship as the Family Saved by the Gospel?

5.9. Purified for Good Works: Redeemed for our God and Savior. Clearly, the people of God live differently than those in the world. We are no longer *lawless*, pursuing *impurity and Godless and worldly passions* (2:11, 13) but rather live *self-controlled, upright, and godly lives* (12).

Together, we live humbly as the household of God, submitting to the *elders* appointed by God to lead us (1:5), living *peaceably in families* (1:10) as we are nourished by the *healthy teachings of our great God and Savior*.

Worldly people live in fearful isolation. But Jesus, your Great God and Savior, has claimed you as his responsibility! He has purified your heart from *impurity* so you can come alive with a *holy zeal*. Tasting *true life*, you can now give life by telling others about Him! (14).

Notes⁹: Elders. The family of God is built around the *life-giving grace and peace* coming from God the Father and Christ Jesus our *Savior* (1:4). In them, the family is kept safe.

By the Father's design, the blessing of His *grace and peace* are uniformly distributed through the family by His *elders*, (1:5), *appointed by the Father* to strengthen and keep his family safe. These elders, as in every family, are charged with caring for their households in faithfulness (6) and holy self-control (8). Thus, with its God and Savior at its head, then as a spiritual *family*, and then in every family, God appoints responsible *leaders* to keep the family safe.

⁹ **Notes: Lawlessness Dead Works to Self-controlled Good Works:** Godlessness is at its root *lawless*, for when one ignores God as Lord, there is no *law* restraining the selfish impulses of the *flesh*. Such *flesh-led* lawlessness may seek to do good but its works are inherently dead. So, when Jesus Christ redeems us from lawlessness, His cross enables us to be freed from fleshly Selfishness to produce truly *good works*—works that are life-giving in their *goodness* (Titus 2:14).

□10. Spirit-led Good Works: Pleasing Family

Read Titus 3

How should we live as people washed and reborn by the Holy Spirit?

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior **Titus 3:5**

1. Personal Discovery: Devoted in Heart

Read the Passage and prayerfully write down your insights to share.

Seeing: What is this Bible passage about? (Key words or ideas?)

Learning: What does it Mean? (What is writer/ God telling me?)

Doing: What lesson can I use in my life? (How to apply it?)

2. Family Discussion: Devoted at Home/Group

Read Passage and prayerfully discuss these questions at home/group.

Q: How might we allow the Holy Spirit to keep working in our lives to affirm His work of *washing and renewal*?

QA: Jesus Christ has made us righteous and heirs of an eternal hope, so how should we live in this world?

3.Partnered Sharing: Devoted as Disciples

Read key passages and prayerfully answer to share with partner.

Q1. How should we live in the world? (Titus 3:1-3)

1. Ready for Good Works: When we know our great God and Savior, His grace and peace enrich our lives. Given life, we now are *ready for every good*—that is, life-giving—work (3:1). This good work is reflected in our *respect for God-ordained authorities* (1), how we *speak well* of others (2), and our gentle *courtesy* toward all people (2).

Q2. How and why did our great God and Savior save us? (3:4-7)

2. Saved by mercy of our God and Savior: Holy Spirit's Work: We work *good* in the lives of others because our God and Savior has revealed to us His *goodness* and *loving kindness* (4). By His great mercy, He saved us with a great salvation. Jesus Christ our Savior *pours out His Holy Spirit* to *wash and regenerate us* as heirs of eternal life (7). In this way, God's salvation is truly great—not simply rescuing us from present danger but giving us the best lives as God's heirs sharing in his very eternal life!

Q3. What should we devote ourselves to in this life? Why? (3:8-11)?

3. Devoted to Good Works: Fruit of Faith. When we did not know God, we were *foolish, enslaved to this world's passions and pleasures* (3:2). So, now that we have been saved by the *goodness* of our Great God and Savior, we must no longer devote ourselves foolishly but give ourselves fully to the *good works* (8) springing up from this good eternal life in us! Life-giving *good works* are *profitable for people*—helping them find the same goodness and kindness of God. And, they are *excellent*, seeking what is best and Godly for them. Sadly, some squander their opportunities to devote themselves to *foolish* distractions, as if they never knew God's goodness—controversies, dissensions, and quarrels about God's law (9).

4. Next Steps: Devoted Fruitful Growth

Review Passage and prayerfully hear and respond to instruction.

How should we live as people washed and reborn by the Holy Spirit?

5.10. Generous Grace: You will live your life generously or selfishly, depending on how you have experienced God and His saving mercy! If you live as if you alone can be trusted to do you good, you will protect yourself at all costs—quarreling, speaking evil against others, and indulging in the world’s passions and pleasures (3:2-3). Some even claim to know God but pursue foolish distractions that in the end are *worthless* (9).

However, if you have experienced the life-giving *goodness* of God and his *loving kindness* to *Save* you (4), if you have known the *washing and renewal of the Holy Spirit’s rebirth* (5), and if you have shared in the *righteous life* of your Savior, Jesus Christ as a fellow heir with him (7), then you will have no need to be selfish but generous.

You will have no need to *protect your life*, having abundant life *lavished upon you*. So, you need to waster your time in foolish distraction but *devote your life* to giving out the *good life* which you have been given! (8).

Notes¹⁰: Good Works and Sound (healthy) Doctrine. When God commands His people to devote themselves to *good works* (3:8), he means works that are *life-giving*, for the *good* (Gk. *Eu*) is what is good for life. In this way, *sound doctrine* is not what is commonly thought of as simply *correct* teaching. Rather, this *soundness* is really *healthy teaching*, (Gk. *Hugiaino*—that is, healthy, hygienic). So, your teaching should promote *growth* and not necessarily pedantic or academic rigor.

¹⁰ **Notes: Spirit’s Washing and Regeneration:** The Spirit’s life-giving renewal to make us *children of God* (Jn. 1:12) and also heirs with Christ (Titus 3:7) involves two changes: *washing us from our sins—cauterizing the flesh and its misdeeds* (Rom. 8:13), and *regenerating us* by a spiritual rebirth (Titus 3:5). Being reborn as the spiritual children of God, we inherit the Spirit-given right to not only *inherit* God’s riches but also to *suffer* for our Father’s name!

Prayer Requests:

Request/ Date:	Answer Prayer/ Thankfulness

Journaling: What is the Lord teaching me/ Doing in my life?

Weekly Sermon Notes:	Lord's Lessons and Works in my life:

Devotion: Self-Assessment.

❑1. Devoted Soul: Humbled under Lord not Self (Serpent)- Serving

16 And the **Lord God commanded** the man, saying, “**You may surely eat** of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil** you **shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**” Genesis 2:16-17, also Gen. 3:1-6

❑Humbled Under Lord God (2:17)

- Led by *Lord God* (2:17)
- Under *Commanding Authority*
- *Freely obeys for good life;*
- Rejects sin and *evil* leading to *death*.

❑Self (Serpent)-Serving (3:1-6)

- Listening to *Worldly Serpent* who questions God (3:1)
- *Self is like God* as own Lord (3:5)
- *Self-righteous Self decides fleshly good* (6)
- *Self-interested Self decides fleshly evil to avoid.*

❑2. Devoted Mind: Faith in Lord not Unbelief in Fleshly Understanding

Trust in the Lord with all your **heart**, and do not **lean** on your **own understanding**. 6 In all your ways **acknowledge him**, and he will make straight your paths. 7 Be **not wise** in your **own eyes**; **fear the Lord**, and **turn away from evil**. Prov. 3:5-7; also Gen. 3:6-7

❑Faith in Lord (2:17)

- Fear Lord as the only true God (Prov. 3:7)
- Trust in God as Lord of power, truth, and will (3:5);
- Be willing to follow His *ways* and honor him in your life (6) and turn from evil (7).

❑Unbelief in Fleshly Understanding

- Flatter Self as *wiser* than God (3:7).
- Trust in own understanding to know truth, purpose, power (5).
- Find earthly reasons to sin and follow your own way not the Lord’s commands (Gen. 3:6-7).

❑3. Devoted Heart: Loving God as Father not Worldly Flesh

15 Do not **love the world** or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the **love of the Father** is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the **desires** of the **flesh** and the **desires** of the **eyes** and **pride of life**—is

not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the **world** is **passing** away along with its desires, but whoever does **the will of God** abides **forever**. 1 John 2:15-17

☐ Loving God as Father (2:15)

- Loves the Father (15)
- Desires to do the Will of God (17)
- Seeks what *abides forever* (17).

☐ Worldly Flesh (16)

- Loves the World (2:15)
- Follows the desires of flesh, what it sees as *good*, and its *prideful life in the world* (16)
- Clings to a world that is *passing away* (17).

☐4. Devoted Strength: Giving Body as a Living Sacrifice not Conformed to World

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, **by the mercies of God**, to **present** your **bodies as a living sacrifice, holy** and **acceptable to God**, which is your **spiritual worship**. 2 Do **not be conformed** to this **world**, but be **transformed** by the **renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the **will of God**, what is **good** and **acceptable** and **perfect**. Rm. 12:1-2

☐ Giving Self as a Living Sacrifice (12:1)

- Gives Body as a Living Sacrifice to God (Rom. 12:1).
- Lives sacrificially to be holy, acceptable, and pleasing to God;
- *Transformed by renewing of mind by God's Word* (2)
- Discerns and proves God's Will as *good, acceptable, and perfect* (2)

☐ Conformed to World (2)

- Gives Flesh to be conformed to this world (2);
- Lives by fleshly works not needing God's mercy (1);
- Conforms to the World and its Godlessness;
- Unchanging, fixed, stubborn, fleshly mind.