

Stand Firm—2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

Topics: God, God's Will, Maturity, Perseverance, Spiritual Growth

Open It

1. What causes many people to give up their plans for self-improvement (diet, exercise, etc.)?
2. If God could give you an audible word of encouragement, what would help you most?

2 Thessalonians 2:13–17 (ESV)

¹³But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

¹⁴To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,

¹⁷comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Explore It

3. For what reasons did Paul encourage people to thank God? (2:13)
4. When did God choose the Thessalonian Christians for salvation? (2:13)
5. What does "sanctification by the Spirit mean? (2:13)
6. Who calls people to salvation? (2:14)
7. For what reason did God call us to salvation? (2:14)
8. What encouragement did Paul give to the church? (2:15)
9. What media did Paul use to send instruction to the church at Thessalonica? (2:15)
10. What impact did Paul want God to have on every believer in the church? (2:16)
11. What did Paul want God to ease and strengthen in the Thessalonian believers? (2:17)

Get It

12. How does God work in our lives even before we put our trust in Him?
13. What teachings should a Christian hold on to as he or she lives for Christ?
14. What weakens a person's relationship with God?

Apply It

15. In what area of your life would taking a firm stand for Christ benefit you this week?
16. When can you make time in your schedule this week to encourage another believer?⁷