



**Thrive: God Lifts Up the Church that
Seeks Him Prayerfully!**

Date: August 25th, 2024

Text: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Passage Summary: Although the times in which we are living in these last days are growing increasingly dark and evil, God's heart for His church that He bought with His own blood is that we would _____ in Christ, not merely _____!

180 Degree Truth #1: See that in God's economy, things like opposition and adversity actually form the _____ for a _____ church! (1:6-10)

Application: Recognize that in God's economy...

- A thriving church is a _____ church! (v.11-12)

See that a thriving church prays _____ that God would...

Count us _____ of His _____! (v.11a)

"With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling..."

2 Thessalonians 1:11a

"Dear God, the natural inclination of my heart is not to pray for opposition, hardship and even persecution, but to the extent that You allow it in my life, help me to see it from your perspective, as a God Who sees me as a worthy vessel who is both fit and honored to share in the sufferings of Christ, Who gave His life for me."

_____ the God given _____ He has placed
within our hearts! (v.11b)

"...and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith."

2 Thessalonians 1:11b

"Dear God, I recognize that sometimes I have difficulty discerning what are good and God given desires in my life; I pray that as I continue to progress in what it means to know, grow, row and go for Christ, that in increasing measure, you would bring the desires of my heart into alignment with yours, that I might be a vessel that you can bless and use mightily for your Kingdom for the glory and honor of your Name."

Completely _____ the _____ of Jesus! (v.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."

2 Thessalonians 1:12

"I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death."

Philippians 1:20

"Dear God, forgive me for the times and the seasons where my vision for life is too small. It is so easy for me to become self focused and short sighted, especially in times of difficulty. But I want to live for something greater. I want to live for your honor and glory, and my heart is to see every circumstance and season as an opportunity to do that very thing. Can you please help me grow in my commitment and ability to do this, keeping my eyes on Jesus as my ultimate example..."

"Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 'Father, glorify your name!'"

John 12:27-28

"Pray for a faith that will not shrink when washed in the waters of affliction."

Ernest Wadsworth

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine that the church that thrives in the last days is not merely a church that receives prayer in the face of opposition and adversity, but the church that learns to _____ their own intercessory prayer to the ultimate aim of seeing the Name of Jesus _____ in all that is unfolding!