

Home Group Helps

1 Thessalonians 5:25-28

Living in the Light of His Return: Final Pleas

²⁵ Brethren, pray for us. ²⁶ Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss. ²⁷ I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren. ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I. Pray for the Apostles (v.25) – ²⁵ Brethren, pray for us.

II. Pursue Affectionate Fellowship (v.26) – ²⁶ Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

III. Present God's Word (v.27) – ²⁷ I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

IV. Part in Grace (v.28) – ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

1. Launching Question(s):

- The Apostle Paul closes this first letter to the Thessalonians with an emphasis on grace. Why is grace so important and so amazing?

2. Observation Question(s):

- Paul's first plea is a plea for prayer for himself. Paul was the greatest theologian in the Bible. What does this plea for prayer tell you about the importance of prayer in the theology of Paul?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

- Paul's second plea is that we "greet the brethren with a holy kiss." In Western culture we tend to not kiss as a public expression of our affection. However, the emphasis on affectionate fellowship is just as important now as it was for the Thessalonians. In what ways can we use ourselves, our homes, our time, our resources, etc. to express affectionate fellowship toward other believers?

4. Reflection Question(s):

- Based upon Paul's admonition for the Thessalonians to pray for himself and the other church leaders, how might you pray specifically for your pastor and church officers (see Eph. 6:18-20; 2 Cor. 11:23-29; Heb. 13:17-18; Col. 4:2-4)?

5. Application Question(s):

- How can you pursue affectionate fellowship toward another Christian this week?