

STANDING OUT: Stand Protected

2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-5

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #StandingOut

In Perilous Pretastes Enjoy Peaceful Protections

1. Reach Out for **Partners** (1-2).

2. Reach Up for **Promises** (3-4).

3. Reach In for **Power** (5).

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ²and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.

³But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. ⁴And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command.

⁵May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

(ESV)

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What troubles you about our current times? What are some ways that you feel the hostility, attack, or discouragement of the world? How can we turn those things from panic to prayer? Who can you encourage around you? How important is it to have a list of names to routinely pray over?
2. In what way does this passage highlight the faithfulness of God? How does Jesus' faithfulness and steadfast love give you assurance in troubling times? List the ways to remind and encourage one another.
3. What would your life look like if your heart was directed to God's love for you and Jesus's example of steadfastness? How does Jesus's example inspire you to continue on this week in your unique pressures?

Quote for the Week. . .

by Donald S. Whitney



“Sometimes a failure to persist in prayer proves that we were not serious about our request in the first place. At other times God wants us to persist in prayer in order to strengthen our faith in Him. Faith would never grow if all prayers were answered immediately. Persistent prayer tends to develop deeper gratitude as well. As the joy of a baby’s birth is greater because of the months of anticipation, so is the joy of an answer to prayer after persistent praying. And as much as a generation that measures time in nanoseconds hates to admit its need for it, God crafts Christlike patience in us when He requires persistence in prayer.”

Donald Whitney, “Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life,” www.navpress.com, 1991, p. 81.