

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: March 10, 2024
2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

1. What prayer requests do Paul share in 3:1-2?
 - a. That the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, as it was with them.
 - b. That they may be delivered from wicked and evil people who don't have faith.

2. What affirmations does Paul give to the Thessalonians in 3:3-5?
 - a. He tells them that the Lord is faithful.
 - b. He tells them that the Lord will strengthen and protect them from the evil one.
 - c. He tells them about his confidence that they are doing and will continue to do the things Paul has commanded.
 - d. He blesses them again by asking God to direct their hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

3. What does Paul say next, according to 3:6?
 - a. He commands them to stay away from every believer who is idle and disruptive.
 - b. He commands them to stay away from believers that don't live according to the teaching they received from him.

4. How, according to 3:7-8, did Paul and his companions live among them?
 - a. Idle.
 - b. They ate everybody else's food and didn't throw in.
 - c. They worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to them.

5. Why did they do this, according to 3:9?
 - a. Because they didn't have any right to help.
 - b. Because they wanted to make themselves a model for the Thessalonians to imitate.

6. What rule did Paul give the Thessalonians, according to 3:10?
 - a. I don't know, that verse mysteriously got taken out of my Bible.
 - b. "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."
 - c. Something very similar to Proverbs 20:4, 21:25, 22:13, 26:13-16...need we go on?

7. Is this a random instruction, according to 3:11-15? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____

8. Why is being idle so bad, according to this text?
 - a. I don't know, it feels good to me.
 - b. People who are not productive are disruptive.
 - c. When you are not active, you have plenty of time on your hands to get into peoples' business...but since you are productive, you aren't doing it to help them, but to tear them down.
 - d. Because they are leaning on everyone else for their supply and not working for their food like others around them.
 - e. Because they aren't "doing good" and James tells us that if we know the good we ought to do and don't do it, it is sin.

9. How does Paul tell us to respond to those who don't listen to this instruction?
 - a. Do not associate with them, so that they may feel ashamed.
 - b. Don't treat them as an enemy, but instead warn them as you would a fellow believer.

10. How are you doing? _____