

1. *Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*
2. *We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;*
3. *Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;*
4. *Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.*

- **The Church:** Thessalonica
- **The Date:** A.D. 54
- **The People:** the Thessalonians (born-again Christians)
- **Author:** God through the apostle Paul

I) Prayer:

What is our prayer life like?

A) How we ought to pray (**Matthew 6:9-13**):

- 1) Worship God and acknowledge His position in heaven (**9**).
- 2) Acknowledge God’s purpose in heaven and on earth (**10**).
- 3) Bring to God our daily needs and those of others (**11**).
- 4) Acknowledge and repent of sins (**12**).
- 5) Ask for deliverance from temptation and the devil (**13**).

B) Additionally, we should take others with us to God in prayer:

- 1) *“making mention of you in our prayers” (I Thessalonians 1:2).*
- 2) *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).*
- 3) *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).*

II) Work of Faith (I Thessalonians 1:3a):

A) Is God first in our life?

- 1) *“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths” (Proverbs 3:6).*
- 2) *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33).*
 - Is God number one?

B) Where is your faith lived out?

- 1) *“how ye turned to God from idols” (I Thessalonians 1:9a).*
 - Do Idols rule our time and choices, or is God the top priority?

III) Labour of Love (I Thessalonians 1:3b):

A) Do we love God as much as we should?

1) *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment” (Mark 12:30).*

- Love God with your heart – Make your God’s purpose your top priority.
- Love God with your soul – Keep your desires and emotions pleasing to God
- Love God with your mind – Study God’s word; consume your thoughts with God.
- Love God with your strength – Give God all of your love, not just some.

⇒ *“lovest thou me more than these?” (John 21:15-17).*

B) Do we have charity?

1) Do we *“serve the living and true God”*? (I Thessalonians 1:9).

2) *“the greatest of these is charity”* (I Corinthians 13:13b).

- Is love present in our actions?

IV) Patience of Hope (I Thessalonians 1:3c):

A) Are we filled with the blessed hope of God’s promises?

1) *“Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work” (II Thessalonians 2:16-17).*

- Is our hope filled with the bountiful grace God has extended to us?

B) Are we filled with the blessed hope of Christ’s return?

1) *“And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come” (I Thessalonians 1:10).*

- Is our hope in our future consolation through Christ?

V) Our Faith, Love, and Hope are the three most important things:

A) *“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (I Corinthians 13:13).*

VI) Remembrance of Our Salvation and Our God:

A) *“Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God” (I Thessalonians 1:4).*

1) Do we remember our daily help from God and our eternal promise through Jesus Christ?