

Pray for Overflowing Love and Great Spiritual Strength

¹² *May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.*

¹³ *May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.*

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Scripture Prayer Guide Using the Word of God To Pray through

1 Thessalonians 1

...Using the *New International Version* of the Bible...

Thank God for the Fruit Born in Believers' Lives

² *We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers.* ³ *We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

Praise God for the Powerful Proclamation of the Gospel

⁴ *For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,* ⁵ *because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.*

1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

Praise God for the Joyful Acceptance of the Gospel

⁶ *You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.* ⁷ *And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.* ⁸ *The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it,* ⁹ *for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you*

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turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,
¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Thessalonians 1:6–10

¹³ And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe. ¹⁴ For you, brothers, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews.

1 Thessalonians 2:13–14

Proclaim the Gospel for God's Approval

¹ You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. ² We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition. ³ For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴ On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. ⁶ We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.

1 Thessalonians 2:1–6a

Consider as Precious Those Who Need to Embrace the Gospel

⁶...As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, ⁷ but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. ⁸ We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. ⁹ Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

1 Thessalonians 2:6b–9

Model the Message You Proclaim

¹⁰ You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous

and blameless we were among you who believed. ¹¹ For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, ¹² encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2:10–12

Stand Firm in Your Faith in the Face of Trials

² We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God's fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, ³ so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them. ⁴ In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless.

1 Thessalonians 3:2–5

⁶ But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. ⁷ Therefore, brothers, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸ For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 3:6–8

Take Joy and Thank God for the Acceptance of the Gospel

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?

1 Thessalonians 3:9

Pray for Opportunities for Deeper Discipleship

Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

1 Thessalonians 3:10