

TO SUPPLY WHAT IS LACKING IN YOUR FAITH

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

Key Verse 3:10

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

1. When he was separated from the Thessalonians, how did Paul feel and what did he do (2:17-18)? Why was he hindered? How did he assure them of their significance in Christ and relationship to Paul (19-20)?
2. What difficult decision did Paul make for the Thessalonians' sake (3:1-2a)? What was Timothy's mission and why was it necessary (2b-4; Jn 15:19-20)? What was Paul concerned about and why (5)?
3. What news did Timothy bring (6)? How had the Thessalonians fared in Paul's absence (7-8)? What particularly encouraged Paul? For what reason was Paul so thankful to God (9)? What can we learn from Paul who shared God's heart?
4. Read verse 10. What describes the intensity of Paul's prayer, and why was it necessary (2:18; 3:5)? Why did Paul want to see them (10b)? What do the words “supply” and “lacking in your faith” imply?
5. What did Paul pray for the Thessalonians specifically (11-13)? How does his prayer reflect what was lacking in their faith and God's heart's desire for them? What do you learn about pastoral prayer from Paul?