

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.*

## 2nd Thessalonians

Mar 2017

### Model for Living: *Working to Avoid Idleness*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

How does one learn good work habits?

#### **EXPLORATION**

##### **Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18**

1. What example had Paul set when he was with the church at Thessalonica? Vv.7-8
2. What work habits did Paul display while he was in Thessalonica?
3. How can associating with idle, lazy people influence your work habits?
4. The culture in Washington, DC (among white collar workers) promotes workaholism, not idleness. What is wrong with that?
5. Why did Paul work so hard and pay for his food? Vv. 8-9
6. What could be wrong with accepting hospitality?
7. What rule had Paul given about working and eating? v. 10
8. What reports had Paul heard about some of the believers in Thessalonica? What guidance did he give? Vv. 6, 11-12
9. What encouragement did Paul give to those he called "brothers"?
10. How were the Thessalonians to regard anyone who ignored Paul's instructions? What should we do with people who do not obey these instructions? (Vv.14-15)
11. What did Paul do to make his final greeting special?
12. What example should a Christian set for others where they work and live? Explain?

#### **APPLICATION**

- What improvements in your work habits can you make this week?
- From what bad influences do you need to distance yourself? How?

*Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15, 16 (NASBV)*

*So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12 (ESV)*

*Lord, let me know my end, and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is! Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight. Surely every man stands as a mere breath!" Psalm 39:4-6 (RSV)*

*Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a city and spend a year there and carry on our business and make money. Yet you do not know [the least thing] about what may happen tomorrow. What is the nature of your life? You are [really] but a wisp of vapor (a puff of smoke, a mist) that is visible for a little while and then disappears [into thin air]. James 4:13-14 (Amplified)*