

Text: II Thessalonians 3:1-5

- I. Pray for God to remove
 - A. Distractions
 - B. Wicked People
 - C. The Evil One – Satan

A. Distractions – VS1

Paul asked for prayer so the gospel would be preached without any hindrances. Likewise, we should pray that we might hear God’s Word and walk the Christian walk without distraction.

B. Wicked People - VS2

As much as we strive to serve God and honor Him in all that we do, there will be wicked people working against not only us, but against God. These are not misguided people, but wicked people, even those who call themselves Christians. What

C. The Evil One - VS3

I like this. God is faithful! He is reliable. You can count on Him. He is faithful to strengthen us and to keep us from evil. I pray everyday, God keep me from evil. But this is not only evil, but the Evil One, Satan, the Devil. Only God can give us victory over the Evil One (See James 4:7 – We can only resist the Devil if we are submitting to God).

II. Thank God for

A. His Faithfulness in others

B. The Loving Endurance of Christ

A. His faithfulness in others - VS4

Do you have people in your life that you can trust to do the right thing? Not because they are great, but because you can see God doing great things in their lives. We should look for Godly potential in others.

B. The Loving Endurance of Christ - VS5

The greatest commandment is that we love. Love whom? Love God and others. The love of God is the grand motive and principle of obedience (John 3:16). He also mentions here the patient waiting for Christ. It should actually be the patience of Christ, speaking of Christ's endurance (See Hebrews 12:1-2).