### Lesson 17

### **Final Prayer and Instructions**

1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

#### Day 1: A Prayer for Sanctification – Part 1 (v. 23)

"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely,"

1. Who is the source of the power that gives believers the ability to obey all that God

2. Does this fact in any way negate human responsibility to work out our sanctification? Why or why not?

3. Define the word *peace*.

commands of us?

a. What does it mean to have peace with God?

	b. Do you have peace with God?
4.	Define the word sanctify (hagiazō).
5.	Is sanctification an Old Testament concept or a New Testament one?
6.	How does Paul describe the extent of a believer's sanctification? Is that encouraging to you?
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Da	ay 2: A Prayer for Sanctification – Part 2 (v. 23b)
	"and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."
	"A sanctified person bears not only God's name, but his image." Thomas Watson
1.	What is the significance of the inclusion of the body in verse 23?

2.	What does it mean to be "without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"?
3.	Read Ephesians 5:26-27. What do these verses teach us about Christ's desire for the church?
4.	What do the following verses teach us about sanctification? a. 1 Corinthians 6:11
	b. Hebrews 10:10
	c. Romans 12:1-2

d. 2 Timothy 2:21

e. John 17:17

f. Hebrews 12:10

5. Is there any area of your life that you need to work on being more sanctified in? What steps will you take to do that?

### Day 3: The Assurance of our Sanctification (v. 24)

"Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will do it."

1. Map out the golden chain of redemption from Romans 8:28-30.

2. There are three elements to a believer's sanctification: positional (the past fixed aspect), ultimate (future aspect), and experiential (present). Find at least one verse that speaks to each aspect. 3. Why is understanding the faithfulness of God so important? What would it mean if God were not faithful? 4. Read Philippians 1:6. How does this verse add to your understanding of verse 24? 5. Make a list of how God has been faithful to you. (Today, this week, this month, in the last year, etc.)

#### Day 4: Final Requests (vs. 25-26)

"Brothers and sisters, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss."

1. How does 1 Thess 1:2 connect to 5:25?

2. How does verse 25 connect back to verses 12 and 13?

3. In what ways should we pray for our elders?

4. What does a holy kiss represent?

5. What would a holy kiss look like in our church?

6. How might the application of verse 26 be influenced by James 2:1-13?

7.	Why is it so important that we express loving affection for one another?
Da	y 5: Final Instructions and Benediction (vs. 27-28)
1.	Why would Paul put them under oath to have the letter read?
2.	What example does the public reading of this letter hold for the church today?
3.	What word is used by Paul in the beginning and ending of all his epistles?
4.	What do these verses teach us about the grace of God? a. 2 Timothy 1:9

	b. Titus 2:11-12
	c. 2 Cor. 12:8-9
	d. Ephesians 4:7
	e. Hebrews 4:16
	f. 1 Peter 4:10
5.	Sum up what Paul desires for the Thessalonians to do. Is this list any different from what we

as a church are called to do today?

6.	List at least one truth that you have learned or came to a more mature understanding of
	through our study of 1 Thessalonians.

### **Dig Deeper**

1. Do a study on the connection between body, soul, and spirit in Scripture.

2. Do a word study on sanctification.