

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why was Paul worried about the believers in Thessalonica?
- What did Paul say will happen when Jesus returns?
- What message of hope can you share with your friends and neighbors?



Paul Gave Hope

1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:11

**MAIN POINT: PAUL ENCOURAGED THE THESSALONIANS
BY REMINDING THEM THAT JESUS WILL RETURN.**

Paul traveled to the city of Thessalonica. Paul told the people the good news about Jesus, and many people believed in Jesus. Paul started the church in Thessalonica, but some people did not like Paul or his teachings and they forced him out of the city.

Paul worried about the people in Thessalonica. So Paul sent his friend Timothy to see how they were doing. Timothy brought back good news. Even though the Thessalonians faced suffering for their faith, they did not give up. Paul wrote a letter to encourage the believers. He told them that Jesus will return someday. On that day, Paul said, believers will be freed from their sufferings! This message gave them great hope.

Paul wrote to the believers at the church in Thessalonica to help them know what is true and to teach them what happened to friends who had died.

No one knows when Jesus will come again. So be ready. Whether we are alive or dead when Jesus returns, He will bring us all home with Him forever. So continue to encourage each other because we have this future hope.

Christ Connection: The prophets in the Old Testament told about the Day of the Lord, a day when God would come to judge the world and save His people. Paul said that in the future, on the Day of the Lord, Jesus will return for His people and judge the wicked. Believers live with hope, knowing that Jesus will come again.