## "Postscript"

Sunday, August 1, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou

**BIG IDEA**: God's grace has brought us safe so far & God's grace will lead us home.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

1 Thessalonians 5:28 (CSB)

- **Prayers** for the <u>Thessalonians</u>. (v23-24)
  - A <u>prayer</u> for <u>sanctification</u>. (v23a)
  - O A prayer for preservation. (v23b)
  - A <u>prayer</u> for <u>vindication</u>. (v23c)
  - A <u>prayer</u> of <u>commendation</u>. (v24)
- Challenges for the <u>Thessalonians</u>. (v25-28)
  - A <u>call</u> to <u>prayer</u>. (v25)
  - A <u>call</u> to <u>love</u> & <u>unity</u>. (v26)
  - A <u>call</u> to <u>accountability</u>. (v27)
  - A <u>call</u> to <u>grace</u>. (v28)

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READ: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

THINK: As Paul brings his first letter to the Thessalonians to a close, ask yourself these questions: How would you summarize the goal and hope of the Christian journey in your own words (v23-24)? How do v23-24, 25-27 & then v28 relate to the previous paragraph (v12-22)? What does it mean to have a sanctified spirit? A sanctified soul? A sanctified body? What is the greatest spiritual influence in your life right now? How does your soul (mind, will, & emotional sensibilities) need to be more "holy"? How does holiness need to be lived out more in your body today? How does Jesus Christ "keep" us? What will it take to be blameless at Christ's return? Why does Paul solicit prayer (v25)? In what practical tangible ways can we demonstrate love and unity? What are some ways we can be accountable to know and live by The Book (the Bible)? What does WBC look like when the Lord Jesus Christ's grace is with us?

**DO**: Identify someone you can pray for in ministry this week, check in with them to find out how to pray for them, and then schedule some time to pray. Find one trustworthy individual with whom you can share some prayer concerns of your own. Commit to join a care group by September for accountability, fellowship and service.