

## “Soli Deo Gloria”

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Sunday, August 8, 2021, 10:30 a.m.  
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI  
Pastor Jonathan DeCou  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

**BIG IDEA:** The Christ-follower lives to make God famous and enjoy Him forever.

*“For from [God] and through Him  
and to Him are all things.  
To Him be the glory forever. Amen.”  
Romans 11:36 (CSB)*



### **Praise for the Thessalonians.** (v1-4)

- Praise for increasing **FAITH**. (v3a)
- Praise for increasing **LOVE**. (v3b)
- Praise for increasing **PATIENCE**. (v4)
- Praise for increasing **INFLUENCE**. (v4a)



### **Promises for the Thessalonians.** (v5-10)

- A promise for **REWARD**. (v5)
- A promise for **REPAYMENT**. (v6, 7b-9)
- A promise for **REST**. (v7a, 10)



### **Prayers for the Thessalonians.** (v11-12)

- A prayer to be **WORTHY**. (v11a)
- A prayer to **WORK**. (v11b)

- A prayer to **WITNESS**. (v12)

**BIG IDEA:** The Christ-follower lives to make God famous and enjoy Him forever.

**READ:** 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

**THINK:** As Paul begins his second letter to the Thessalonians, ask yourself these questions: *What did your parents do correctly in raising you? What rewards and punishments worked best in your upbringing? What has happened since Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians (see v4)? How & why does Paul commend the Thessalonians (v1-4)? Why do you suppose Paul mentions only two of his three favorite virtues, FAITH & LOVE, but not HOPE (see 2:1-2 for clues)? What promise of reward does Paul extend to the Thessalonians (v5)? If Paul’s words in v5-10 could be compared to a court room, who is on trial here? Who is on the witness stand? Who is on the judge’s bench? Why is God waiting until the 2nd Coming to punish these persecutors? Who benefits from this delayed justice? How so? What qualities does Paul admire most in these Christians? What do you see as the net effect of Paul’s PRAISE, PROMISES & PRAYERS? What does it mean to give God glory or to make Him famous? How does doing that bring us joy in life?*

**DO:** Strategize how you will exercise FAITH, LOVE, PATIENCE and INFLUENCE this week in specific circumstances and relationships. Identify any struggles you may be enduring that are the direct result of you being a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. Rewrite Paul’s prayer in v11-12, in your own words and then offer up that prayer on behalf of someone you know who may need that intercession.

