

**“How to be Encouraged as We Assess our Spiritual Life” 9/26/10**

**2 Thessalonians 3.1-18**

**Ever taken a test of completed a course and not known your STATUS?**

Studies in 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians- “Encouragement for a Faith-full Church”

This is a **PROGRESS REPORT** on how we are doing....

POINT 1- We will find comfort as we focus on APPREHENSION

A. We must apprehend that we need to be saints of PRAYER  
 (“continually pray” for leaders; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; success of Word)

**PRAYER over DINNER please CrossRoads and the leadership and ministry leaders**

B. We must apprehend that we need to be saints of FAITH  
 (Matthew 6:13; Hebrews 6:12; 11:6; Acts 12- Peter or James?)

C. We must apprehend that we need to be saints of OBEDIENCE  
 (not hearers but doers, Matt 7:24-27; Jam 1:22-25; expects obedience)

D. We must apprehend that we need to be saints of AUTHENTICITY  
 (Matthew 7:21-23; “from the heart”; John 14:15; Galatians 5:22-23)

**Going Deeper** *God wants us to be honest in His assessment of our Spiritual Life!*

POINT 2- We will find comfort as we focus on ADMONITION

A. We are admonished to hold the lazy accountable and work HARD  
 (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 5:14; Prov 16:26)

**"A laborer's appetite works on his behalf, for his hunger urges him to work."**

*"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." (1Tim 5:8)*

**Going Deeper** *God wants us to be honest in His assessment of our Work Ethic!*

POINT 3- We will find comfort as we focus on ACQUISITION

A. We must recognize that comfort comes through the Lord's PEACE  
 (John 14:27; Isaiah 9:6; Gal 5:22; Philippians 4:6-7; Rom 5:1)

*"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27*

**Going Deeper** *God wants us to be honest in His assessment of our Spiritual Maturity!*