

# **1 Thessalonians**

## **Lesson #14, Chapter 5 Overview**

The goal of this lesson is to teach you how to look at and begin to study a text of Scripture. Observation<sup>1</sup> is a necessary part of Bible study, but can often be overlooked or rushed through. Observation begins with reading through the chapter and then reading and rereading it again and again! At this stage in our Bible study you're noticing and then recording what God has put into the chapter. You're not making any interpretations about what it means or how it applies to your life—that will come later. Don't rush through this lesson. Set aside time this week to peer into the living and abiding word of God. You'll be glad you did!

1. To begin, read through Chapter 5. Now, summarize the contents of Chapter 5. This is not the time to be super detailed; instead, think of trying to tell a 4<sup>th</sup> grader the contents of the chapter.
  - a. Summarize paragraph 1 (verses 1-11).
  - b. Summarize paragraph 2 (verses 12-22).
  - c. Summarize paragraph 3 (verses 23-24).
  - d. Summarize paragraph 4 (verses 25-28).

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<sup>1</sup> The method and process of observation in Bible study does God honor, as we stop, observe, and consider each and every one of His recorded Words, in their context. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the debt I owe to the Precept Inductive Bible Studies observation method, which I have adapted in my studies. As far as I know, the method is the brainchild of Kay Arthur, though I've encountered a number of others who have also come up with similar ways for observing the text. The point of observation is to slow down and really look at what God has preserved for us in His Word. What I've created here is simply another variation to help us peer more closely at the Scriptures—for our good and His glory.

2. After reviewing the chapter and what you wrote for your paragraph summaries, ask yourself: What is the main point of this chapter? How do all these details and events reveal the main idea of the chapter? Now record your answer.
  
3. Next, look for a verse in the chapter that *best* summarizes the contents of the chapter. You might be tempted to choose your favorite verse here, but please don't do that. Instead, consider which verse best sums up what's in the chapter. Write down the verse you chose here.
  
4. Now you're ready to title your chapter. Your 3-5 word title should reflect the contents of the chapter. Remember, a title's purpose is to help you remember what is in each chapter.
  
5. List the things *God* did in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference with your answers.
  
6. List what you learn about *Jesus Christ* in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference to support your answer.
  
7. What do you learn about the Thessalonians in this chapter? Be sure to include the verse references that support your observations.
  
8. What do you learn about Day of the Lord in this chapter? Be sure to include the verse references with your answer.

9. Write down at least one thing you thought was interesting from this chapter.

## **1 Thessalonians Chapter 5**

**1** Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

**2** For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

**3** While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

**4** But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief;

**5** for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

**6** so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

**7** For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

**8** But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

**9** For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**10** who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

**11** Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

**12** But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

**13** and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

**14** We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

**15** See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

**16** Rejoice always;

**17** pray without ceasing;

**18** in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**19** Do not quench the Spirit;

**20** do not despise prophetic utterances.

**21** But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good;

**22** abstain from every form of evil.

**23** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**24** Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

**25** Brethren, pray for us.

- 26** Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.
- 27** I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.
- 28** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.