

How to pray for other Christians (and myself)

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12, p. 959

I. TO BE WORTHY – PRAY THAT THEY WILL REFLECT THE PRIVILEGE OF THEIR SALVATION (2 THESSALONIANS 1:11).

- *Worthy* – Does my life increasingly align with God's purpose for saving me (1 Thessalonians 2:12; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Ephesians 4:1)?

A. Inward spiritual growth – That God grows their desire for good

- *Desire...goodness* – Do I desire what is truly good or just what I selfishly want?

B. External spiritual service – That God fulfills their desire to serve

- *Work of faith* – Am I striving to serve how God wants me to serve?

II. FOR CHRIST'S GLORY – PRAY THAT CHRIST WOULD BE PRAISED – WHICH IS OUR ULTIMATE PRIVILEGE (2 THESSALONIANS 1:12).

A. *The Lord Jesus might be glorified in you* – Our spiritual progress displays Christ's power, not ours (12a).

B. *And you (glorified) in Him according to... grace* – As we grow and serve, we share the privilege of God's work in us (12b).