

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
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TOUCHING HEAVEN FOR OTHERS

2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-5

Story of the little girl and her grandmother. The little girl was very confused.

The believers in Thessalonica were confused and upset. Some angry Jews had forced of Paul out town. He was still preaching, but he couldn't return to these people he loved. So, he started the conclusion of his letter with a request that they pray for him. God our heavenly Father wants us to touch heaven for others, just as the apostle has requested in our scripture passage.

**ASKING FOR PRAYER
IS NOT A SIGN OF WEAKNESS.
IT'S A MARK OF DEPENDENCE.**

In this passage we see...

**I. PAUL IS TOUCHING HEAVEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO
SPREAD.**

In this prayer he is asking the people to **Touch Heaven** so that....

- 1. God's Truth Will Be Spread V-1**
- 2. For Protection From EVIL V-2**
- 3. Our Hearts to Overflow with God's LOVE V-5a.**
- 4. Praying for Believers to PERSERVE in Christ V-5b**
The NIV says; "*May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.*"

Let me show you another person who Touched Heaven for others.

**II. MOSES TOUCHED HEAVEN FOR THE SAINTS IN ISRAEL -
Exodus 17:8-13**

The saints are commanded to pray one for another, **James 5:16** "pray one for another,..; **1 Tim. 2:1-8.** We need to pray for one another! We need to pray for the church; the preacher; the Officers; the Children's workers and our missionaries need our prayers.

**III. ABRAHAM TOUCHED HEAVEN FOR THE SINNERS IN
SODOM Genesis 18:20-33**

The context of this passage. Abraham prayed for the sinners in Sodom. He touched Heaven on their behalf. He started with 50 but only needed 10 souls and Sodom would have been spared. Think of it!

IV. JESUS TOUCHED HEAVEN FOR THE SOULS IN SIN

Luke 23:34; "Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

The context of this passage. Our Savior has been brought to Calvary. He has been nailed to the cross to atone for the sins of humanity. He has submitted to the cruel torture of His tormentors without opening his mouth in protest, **Isa. 53:7.** When He does speak, it is not to condemn, but He touches Heaven for those who crucified Him.

Thank God, when Jesus hung there on that cross that Day, He touched Heaven for us! He finished the task the Father had sent Him to accomplish, **John 19:30.** He reached up to Heaven to satisfy the just demands of God for sin; then He reached down in love to a lost and dying world to offer salvation full and free to all those who would come to Him by faith. Then, after He died, He was buried and three days later, He arose victorious over the grave.

Remember that today Jesus our Lord and Saviour is standing in the gap Touching Heaven for us making intercession before the Heavenly father you and me. **Romans 8:34, Hebrews 12:2-3**