

Comfort in Christ > 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

2:13-14 *Chosen by God.* How will Paul help the Thessalonians to have hope and comfort? Not by telling them something new, but instead by reminding them of how they've been chosen by the Lord himself. God has given them a glorious eternal destiny by his grace.

2:15 *Called to Respond.* Paul's point, however, isn't simply to make the Thessalonians feel good. Instead, he wants them to recognize how God's calling will help them to stand firm in the trials and temptations of the present. They do this by looking to the true faith and holding to what has been taught.

2:16-17 *Comfort for a Purpose.* Ultimately, Paul's goal is to show how this comfort links God's loving choice of the Thessalonians in the past with their own faithful actions and words in the present.

Background: Given all that they've endured (persecution, false teaching, etc.), Paul senses that the Thessalonians need encouragement: that they need to see what God has done.

The Point: God's work in the past gives Christians in the present every confidence for standing firmly in the faith.

Head: Know that every Christian (including you!) has been chosen by the Lord.

Heart: Let God's choice build your trust of him in the present.

Hands: God's work in the past should give you confidence to serve him in your works and words today.

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
