

Prayer and A Kiss

1 Thessalonians 5:25-26

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

Main Idea: How Do We Protect the Church? Pray and Kiss.

1.) Pray

**Read Verse 25*

Romans 15:30-32, "**30** Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, **31** that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, **32** that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you."

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2, "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified just as it is with you, **2** and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men;"

2 Corinthians 11:24-26, "From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. **25** Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; **26** in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren"

2 Corinthians 1:11, "you also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift granted to us through many."

A.) Paul's Primary Prayer Requests in This Epistle: To Be Sanctified and Kept Blameless:

**Read Verses 23-24*

i.) These New Christians Did Not Need A Mediator to Approach God in Prayer

ii.) Paul Needed Prayer

B.) Application: Pray For Gospel Ministers.

2.) Kiss

**Read Verse 26*

2 Samuel 19:39, *"Then all the people went over the Jordan. And when the king had crossed over, the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him, and he returned to his own place."*

A.) What Makes the Kiss Holy?

i.) The People Who Are Set Apart

ii.) It was a Symbol of Peace and Unity

"The kiss greeting became a test to ensure that peace and harmony existed among believers. In the East during the third century AD, it was explicitly asked, while the kiss was being exchanged, whether anyone harbored anger toward another..." – Jeffrey Weima

B.) To Harbor Bitterness and Anger While Offering a Holy Kiss Would Profane It.

C.) Application: Could You, With Integrity, Extend A Symbol of Reconciliation to Your Brethren at FBC Gray Gables?