

YOU: GOD'S WORK IN PROGRESS
FINDING HOPE IN GOD'S FAITHFUL WORK ON US
A Discipleship Tool From 1 Thess. 5:23-24

Want to ruin your worship, study time (or that of your spouse)? Stop right now and jot down a few of your unfinished projects. Those uncompleted things that reflect a noble desire and possibly even a great start but now serve to produce guilt, frustration, clutter and family tension.

Today's text speaks of a project that God Himself has started - that of making us holy. It most certainly reflects a noble desire and, yes, He is off to a great start. Yet, He is not finished. However, unlike our incomplete jobs that often languish in uncertainty, God has both the character and ability to complete His work.

Want a fresh shot of hope and encouragement? Read today's passage (1 Thess. 5:23-24) several times and use this study sheet as a prompter to worship God, who is hard at work on you.

5:23 May God himself, the God of peace,
sanctify you through and through.
May your whole spirit, soul and body
be kept blameless at the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24 The one who calls you is faithful
and he will do it. NIV

These two verses are a "wish-prayer" of Paul's for the church in Thessalonica. They are his divine desire for them - and what a holy, mature desire they are. This brief prayer addresses a need they and we share - to grow in all ways in our spiritual maturity and moral purity.

What does Paul pray / wish that God will do for them?

- 1.
- 2.

How does Paul focus on and describe God?

- 1.
- 2.

3.

What gives us hope that God can and will answer this prayer (vs. 24)?

CLOSING THOUGHTS & QUERIES.

How does this compare with Phil. 2:12-16? What part of sanctification is God's part, which is ours?

In light of God's character and knowing that He keeps His commitments, we can take hope knowing that our faithful God finishes His "pet projects" - us. For further encouragement, meditate on Phil. 1:6; 1 Corin. 1:4-9; Romans 8:26-32; 2 Corin. 1:18-20; 1 John 1:5-2:2.

Prayerfully rejoice in this promise of God for you!

Part of the Disciple Making Ministry of
GRACE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

People on a Mission of G. R. A. C. E. to:
Glorifying God by
Reaching Out in His Love,
Applying His Truth to our Lives,
Caring for &
Edifying one Another."