

## Reading the Bible

## For the Living of our Lives

Paul's brief time of ministry in Thessalonica had ended abruptly (Acts 17:5-10). He now writes to encourage them to persevere in their faith in God's grace in Jesus Christ.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22 New International Version

<sup>12</sup> Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. <sup>13</sup> Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. <sup>14</sup> And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. <sup>15</sup> Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

 $^{16}$  Rejoice always,  $^{17}$  pray continually,  $^{18}$  give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not treat prophecies with contempt <sup>21</sup> but test them all; hold on to what is good, <sup>22</sup> reject every kind of evil.