



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for July 18, 2010
Released on Wednesday, July 14, 2010**

"God Calls Us"

Lesson Text: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Background Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

Memory Verse: "Stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught" (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that after calling us to come be His children, God now tells us to stay put by holding on to the message He used to call us.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God calls people through letting them hear the gospel.
2. God urges believers to stay with Jesus and not turn away to any other teaching.
3. The proper response to hearing that God Himself has called us is gratitude, obedience, and stick-to-itiveness.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, bring pictures of Paul and Peter and prepare three flash cards: "hear," "call," and a large red cross.

For Helping to Remember, take a sheet of red construction paper, crayons, masking tape, and safety scissors (blunt tip) for each child.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 51

Place: from Corinth

The close of 2 Thessalonians 2 carries two messages. One deals with God's responsibility, and the other with ours.

God Himself provided mankind's sin remedy through the death of His Son. He did not have to, but He did. And God Himself draws people to His remedy through their hearing the gospel. All believers are viewed as chosen by God Himself to receive His salvation.

God does the doing; we do the believing, for His doing leaves belief in the truth as the sole human responsibility for receiving eternal life and good hope. Since nothing can improve on God's plan, believers are urged to stand firm and show their gratitude by obeying.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Susan and her mother were in the big department store when Mom said, "Susan, I want to step over to Customer Service to pick up this week's advertising. You stay put, and I will be right back."

Susan knew what she meant: Do not move. Do not go anywhere else. So Susan stood where she was until Mom came back a minute later.

Today's lesson is about somebody else who was told to stay put for a very special reason.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Paul was in the middle of writing a second letter to Jesus' friends in Thessalonica. (Show Paul.) He had already thanked God that they believed in Jesus. Now he thanked God for something that had happened so that they *could* believe in Him.

He said God had done something extra special for the Thessalonians. He made sure they got to hear (show "hear" card) that Jesus had come to be their Saviour. You see, when the Thessalonians believed the news about Jesus, God made them His children. Of course people have to hear the good news before they can believe it, and God made that hearing happen for the Thessalonians. (Point to "hear.") He sent Paul to tell them. (Show Paul.)

"God chose you to be saved," Paul said, "and He called you."

Now, what does Mom want when she comes to the door and calls *you*? (Show "call.") Usually she calls because she wants you to come. That is why God calls too. But God does not call people by shouting, "Come, _____!" (Repeat using the names of two or three class members.) No, Paul said that because God chose them, He let them hear that Jesus died for them on a cross. (Show cross.) That is why people become Christians today.

In the Bible (Acts 10:1-48), Cornelius was a soldier who needed to hear. (Point to "hear.") God sent one of Jesus' friends named Peter to tell him. (Show Peter.) Peter told Cornelius and his family that God had sent Jesus. Jesus went around doing good. He died on a cross (show cross), but He came alive again, and everybody who believes

in Him will have his sins taken away. Cornelius and all his family knew God was telling them, "Come." They all believed the news they had heard.

When Paul had told the people in Thessalonica what Jesus had done for them, they too knew God was saying, "Come," and they believed. God did something special and good for them when He let them hear. (Point to "hear.")

"God Himself called you and then let you hear," Paul wrote. "Now stay put. Keep remembering what Jesus has done. Never think something else is better than believing in Him. And remember what we taught you about how God's people should live."

He said he was asking God to help them stay put and do all the good things He had planned for them to do.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Did you know that God was doing something extra special for you when He let you hear about Jesus? When you heard that Jesus died for you, did you know that was because God had called you? It was. He was saying, "Come."

If you want to come to Him, talk to me after class, and I will show you what the Bible says. If you already believe in Jesus, tell Him thank You. And keep believing. Stay put.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Students will make a megaphone. Have them fold the construction paper in half crosswise and then roll it from one corner toward the fold, keeping the mouth end small while the other end widens. Continue rolling until the paper is used up, and tape down the end.

Teacher, even the large end with your scissors. Let pupils cut about 2 inches off the smaller end. Print "Good News" and "Come" on their megaphones.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught" (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

"Stand fast" is another way of saying, "Stay right there. Do not go anywhere else." Paul had told the Thessalonians the news of Jesus and how believers in Him should live. Then he said, "Do not move away from that teaching. Do not start thinking you must do something else to become God's children. Keep believing in Jesus! Stay put!"

CONCLUSION:

It is wonderful to be chosen. It is wonderful to be called. It is even more wonderful to be established in the faith as we stand fast in Jesus Christ.

God has chosen us to be His children. He has allowed us to hear His Word and to receive His salvation. We should now be grateful for His Word, obey His commands, and stick with what we have been taught.

PRAYER:

Dear God, we thank You for letting us hear the gospel and for calling us to be Your children. Help to obey Your Word and to stay with the teaching that we have learned, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "God Is Faithful to Us" and offers encouragement that we can always count on God to do what He has promised. Study 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books.

Holman Bible Dictionary, Holman Bible Publishers

WORD SEARCH

"God Calls Us" (2 Thessalonians 2:13-17)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

SALVATION

GLORY

BEGINNING

JESUS

OBEY

SPIRIT

GIVE THANKS

STAND FAST

LOVE

CHOSEN

HOPE

HEARTS

GOSPEL

TEACHINGS

SANCTIFY

GRACE

E H O G T I O E I H L N N R S A J E E V S L S
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L G Y E S V L P E O C T C E H G A E N N N E R
J I N N A G O L Y O G S S S N J L I S D A L E

SOLUTIO TO WORD SEARCH

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S B E G I N N I N G E
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D G G L N O
N R N V E G T
A I A H S I
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