



# Stand Firm

## Loving Community – Powerful Prayer

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Two key themes in this passage:

### I. Loving community...

1. ... \_\_\_\_\_
2. ... \_\_\_\_\_
3. ... \_\_\_\_\_
4. ... \_\_\_\_\_
5. ... \_\_\_\_\_

### ❖ Why people avoid community:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### II. Powerful prayer:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



## Sit and think on it



## The Power of Together

Describe a time you experienced the love of a community. What was it like? What made being part of that community so memorable?

What does prayer mean to you? How would you describe to an unchurched friend what role prayer plays in your life?

Read: 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

God Himself lives in community. What does that look like and how does that inform how we are to approach life together with others?

Living in community is transformational. What does this mean and how have you experienced this in your journey?

How has living in close relationship with others proven to be a safety net for you in your life? Describe an incident / event where this happened in your journey.

How can doing life together with others in authentic and intimate community be catalytic in bringing about change in the world? Describe an experience you had along these lines.

How has your experience of loving community brought you joy? How have you seen others experience joy as a result of participating in a loving community?

What are some reasons you feel people avoid entering into community? Have you ever rationalized not making a commitment to community? What was your reasoning?

The Apostle Paul ends this portion of his letter with a prayer. What is it specifically that he prays for? What does this say about his heart for the believers at Thessalonica as well as for where they are to direct their efforts? Explain how effort is not opposed to grace but how it is opposed to earning.