Prayer & Scripture Readings October 25, 2026

Prayer for Understanding

God of wisdom and truth, as we turn to your Word, open our minds to understand and our hearts to receive what you would teach us.

Give us the wisdom to discern your truth, the humility to receive correction, and the courage to respond faithfully.

May your Holy Spirit illuminate the Scriptures for us.

May your Word challenge what needs to change, strengthen what is weak, comfort those who are weary, and inspire us to live more fully in the way of Christ.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

2 You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. [2] We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. [3] For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. [4] On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. [5] You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on

a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. [6] We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. [7] Instead, we were like young children[a] among you.

Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, [8] so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. [9] Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. [10] You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who

believed. [11] For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children,

[12] encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

[13] And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.