

“Rely on the Lord of the Church” (2 Thessalonians 3:1–5)

**Big Idea: The saints must rely on the Lord of the church.**

I. Reliance Shown by Prayer for Gospel Ministry (verses 1–2)

a. Prayer for the Success of the Gospel Message (verse 1)

The Gospel Message Glorified: Acts 13:44–52

The Word of the Lord Running Swiftly and Successfully: Psalm 147:12–19;

Isaiah 55:3–11

b. Prayer for the Deliverance of Gospel Ministers (verse 2)

Opposition at That Time in Corinth: 1 Corinthians 2:1–5; Acts 18:5–17

Prayer Meetings for Such Deliverance: Acts 4:23–31; Acts 12:1–5, 11–16

II. Reliance Shown by Confidence about Christian Brethren (verses 3–4)

a. Confidence in Their Faithful Lord’s Protection from the Evil One (verse 3)

2 Thessalonians 2:13–14; 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24

John 17:14–16; 1 John 4:4; 5:18–19

b. Confidence in Their Faithful Lord’s Preservation of Their Obedience (verse 4)

Philippians 2:12–13

III. Reliance Shown by Prayer for Christian Hearts (verse 5)

Compare with 2 Thessalonians 1:3–4.

a. Prayer for God’s Love (verse 5a)

1 John 4:7–12

b. Prayer for Christ’s Endurance (verse 5b)

Hebrews 12:1–3