



Title: How God Closes the Deal
Passage: I Thessalonians 5:19-28
March 23th, 2014

SERMON NOTES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How can I strike the biblical balance of not forbidding prophecy and yet not being gullible to believe everything someone claiming to have a prophecy might say? Read 1 John 4:1-6 & Galatians 1:8, 9. What safeguards do these verses require and how can I put them into practice.

2. Since becoming a Christian, where have I seen growth in growing to be more like Christ (5:23a)? How do I sense or see God sanctifying me in the past few months? If those who know me best were asked these same questions about me, how would they respond?

3. If Jesus returned today, would I be excited to meet Him (5:23b)? Why or why not? Read 1 John 2:28 and 2 Corinthians 5:10. What do I think the Spirit of God would like to change in my life before my time on earth is done? What could I do to accelerate that change? Who will I talk with about that?

4. How has God proven Himself faithful in my life and experience (5:24)? In the lives of others around me? What causes me to question God's ongoing work in me? Talk with God about what He wants you to do when you are plagued by doubts about your salvation or sanctification.

5. Am I committed to praying for the spiritual leaders God has placed in my life (5:25)? What will I do to pray for these leaders?

6. What will I do to stretch myself in greeting my brothers and sisters in Christ warmly and showing them love (5:26)?

7. How would I define "grace" (5:28)? Where in my life do I sense I need God's grace most? In our church? What will I do to make room for God's grace in my/our experience?
