



## 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

### Getting Started

Have you ever done something really hard? What would you say was your primary motivation to do that hard thing?

#### Discussion

What stood out to you from the sermon this weekend?

Do you think there has been an increase in cynicism/suspicion in our day? If so, why? Is this good or bad?

Why do motives matter? What do they reveal?

What does it mean in v. 4 that God “tests our hearts?” Why is this significant?

In v. 8 Paul shares how much he loved the Thessalonians. Based on the previous verses, how did Paul put that love into action? Do you know anyone who loves like that? Where can you grow in this kind of love?

What does it mean to share “not only the gospel but our lives as well”? What might be instructive for us in these words?

#### Prayer

Have everyone share the name of someone in their life who they know who doesn't know Jesus. Pray for those people by name and for opportunities to become “approved messengers of the good news” in their lives.

Consider how you might pray for those folks this week as well.

### As you go

Who was a messenger of the Good News of Jesus to you? Thank God in prayer for that person. Consider sending them your gratitude as well (phone call, letter, text message, lunch, etc.). Pray that God would allow you the opportunity to be a messenger of the good news to someone in your life.

