

Discussion Questions

Date: September 20, 2026

Preacher: Jordan Ledbetter

Sermon Outline

Talking Points

The Word at Work ***1 Thessalonians 2:13-16***

The Gospel's divine origin is understood by the Thessalonians (v. 13)

- True faith in the Gospel is believing it is the actual word of God.
- The divine message of the Gospel will be at work in those who believe.
- **Question:** How have you experienced the word of God working in you?

* How do you read and hear God's Word as a gift from God instead of it being an item on a checklist?

* Where have you seen biblical ideals upheld with no attention to the power of God in the gospel?

* Where have you seen the power of the Gospel lately?

* Can you name how you see the word of God at work in the people in your group?

* What stories about suffering have you heard from the global church?

* How do those stories comfort you in your suffering?

* Do you have a story you need to share to that someone else can be comforted?

Faith in the Gospel places believers on the path of Christ (vv. 14-16)

- Embracing the Gospel will create opposition for God's people. (v. 14)
- Paul comforts the Thessalonians by reminding them they are not alone in their suffering. (14)
- **Question:** Are you willing to experience suffering and loss for the Gospel?

Bottom Line: The Gospel of Christ is working in all who believe it to make us look more and more like Christ in every way.

* Pray for the suffering of the church around the world together. Pray also for each other's suffering.

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Prayer Requests

