

# I THESSALONIANS 2:7-12

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MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US



PRESENTED BY  
DAVE COMPTON.

UNLESS YOU ARE UNHAPPY  
WITH THE CONTENT.

THEN ...



1 THESSALONIANS  
2:7-12

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MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...  
AND US

This material was presented  
by Dave Compton on behalf  
of Peter LaRock.



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS

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For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. (ESV)



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## VERSE 7

“But we were *gentle* among you ....”

NIV: “Instead we were like *young children* among you ...”

Gentle: an infant, little child

- a minor, not of age
- metaphor: childish, untaught, unskilled
- figuratively: a simple-minded person



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Your question might be: Was Paul . . . .

Gentle?

Like an infant?

Like a young child?

Are there two Pauls? The one that argued with the Pharisees and the one that is gentle, like a child?



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Consider the verse before.

I Thessalonians 2:6

Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, *though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ.* (ESV)

So, why the “gentle, infants, young child” reference/comparison? Hmmm?





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II Timothy 2:24

And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil . . .

Other passages that come to mind?



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“ . . . like a *nursing mother taking care of* her own children . . . ”

“ we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God,  
*but also our own selves*, because you had become very dear to us.”

Mothers:

- Work night and day
- Sacrifice for their kids



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Gotta love J.Vernon McGee

“Have you ever heard of a mother's union which insisted a mother would work only for eight hours of the day?

Have you known any mothers who punch the clock and then turn away from their crying babies because they refuse to work anymore?

Maybe some mothers will work out some kind of union agreement like that, but I don't think real mothers would want it. Mothers work a little differently—night and day.”



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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I Thessalonians 2:9–10

“For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: *we worked night and day*, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers.”(ESV)

A confirmation/reminder/restatement of the first verses in chapter 2.



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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1 Thessalonians 2:11–12

“For you know how, *like a father with his children*, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.” (ESV)



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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Why the Mother and Father comparison?

Mother's role versus Father's role.

“Compare and Contrast”



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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Paul ...

Exhorted

Encouraged

Charged



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ... AND US

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Exhorted

Romans 12:1

“I *appeal* to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

I Corinthians 4:16

“I *urge* you, then, be imitators of me.”





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Encouraged

to speak to, address one, whether by way of admonition and incentive, or to calm and console

Acts 14:22

“ . . . strengthening the souls of the disciples, **encouraging** them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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Charged/Affirmed

Ephesians 4:1–3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, *urge you* to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (ESV)



# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US.

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1 Thessalonians 2:12

”... to walk in a manner *worthy of God*, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. (ESV)

# MOTHERS, FATHERS, INFANTS ...AND US

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Challenge, application, exhortation to US:

Live/Walk in a manner worthy of God

- Not of men
  - Is there a perfect man?
- Not of leaders/rulers
  - Surely, we can do better
- Not of peers
  - Set the example for them