

Fearless
Spiritual Transformation
February 26, 2023

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 For God did not appoint us to **suffer wrath** but to receive **salvation** through our Lord Jesus Christ. **He died for us so that**, whether we are awake or asleep, **we may live together with him**.

Acts 17:2-5 As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on **three Sabbath days** he **reasoned** with them **from the Scriptures**, **explaining** and **proving** that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead “This Jesus I am **proclaiming** to you is the Messiah,” he said. Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women. But other Jews **were jealous**; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city...

1 Thessalonians 1:1-2 Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.

Keys to Spiritual Transformation:

1. _____ to Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:3 We remember before our God and Father your **work** produced by faith, your **labor prompted by love**, and your **endurance inspired by hope** in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Facts about Faithfulness:

- ✓ Work produced by _____.

James 2:17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

- ✓ Labor of _____.

1 John 4:11-12 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

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✓ Endurance of _____.

2. _____ of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:4-7 For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you **not simply with words but also with power**, with the **Holy Spirit** and **deep conviction**. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became **imitators** of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the **midst of severe suffering** with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a **model** to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

1 Timothy 4:12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but **set an example** for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

3. Passion for _____.

1 Thessalonians 1:8-9a The **Lord's message rang out from you** not only in Macedonia and Achaia—**your faith in God has become known everywhere**. Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us.

1 Thessalonians 1:9b-10 They tell how you **turned to God from idols** to serve the living and true God, and to **wait for his Son from heaven**, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

What does transformation look like? It begins with repentance.

- ✓ They turned _____ something.
- ✓ They turned to _____.
- ✓ Their life is characterized by an _____ waiting for Christ's return.

Walk Away: Fearless living begins with _____ the transforming work of Christ in our lives.

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