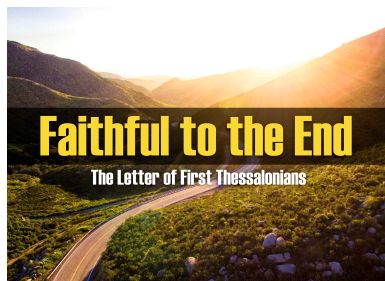


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

The "Faith" Full Life

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor
March 21, 2021



1 Thessalonians 3:2b-3 "We sent him [Timothy] to strengthen you, encourage you in your faith, and to keep you from being shaken by the troubles you were going through. But you know we were destined for such troubles."

What are the keys to faithfulness, flourishing and finishing well?

Big Idea: Choose to be joyful, prayerful, thankful, & purposeful to live a "faith" full life.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-28 Always be joyful. ¹⁷ Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. ¹⁹ Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Do not scoff at prophecies, ²¹ but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. ²² Stay away from every kind of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. ²⁴ God will make this happen, for he who calls you is faithful.²⁵ Dear brothers and sisters, pray for us. ²⁶ Greet all the brothers and sisters with a sacred kiss. ²⁷ I command you in the name of the Lord to read this letter to all the brothers and sisters. ²⁸ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

• **Choose to be joyful...** v.16 "Always be joyful..."

We are joyful because God loves us and He is with us!

"For the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10 (NLT)

"In your presence there is fullness of joy." Psalm 16:11 (ESV)

• **Choose to be prayerful...** v. 17 "Never stop praying"

v. 19 "Do not stifle the Holy Spirit...Don't scoff at prophecies."

v. 21 "...but test everything that is said."

We are prayerful because God is mighty and we are totally dependent on Him.

• **Choose to be thankful...** v. 18 "Be thankful in all circumstances..."

Romans 8:28 (NLT) "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

We are thankful because God is good and He is in control.

Isaiah 53:10-12 (NLT) But it was the Lord's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the Lord's good plan will prosper in his hands. ¹¹ When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins. ¹² I will give him the honours of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels.

• **Choose to be purposeful...**

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 (AMP) Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you through and through [that is, separate you from profane and vulgar things, make you pure and whole and undamaged—consecrated to Him—set apart for His purpose]; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete and [be found] blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ Faithful *and* absolutely trustworthy is He who is calling you [to Himself for your salvation], and **He will do it [He will fulfill His call by making you holy, guarding you, watching over you, and protecting you as His own].**

We can be purposeful because God will fulfill His purposes in us as we trust Him.

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service is from the New Living Translation (NLT) the English Standard Version (ESV), and the Amplified Bible (AMP).



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
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impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**The “Faith” Full Life
#7 of 7 - March 21, 2020**

- 1) What stood out to you in this message and what questions did it raise?
- 2) What has been a significant takeaway from our study of 1 Thessalonians. What have you learned that has been helpful in your spiritual journey with Jesus?
- 3) Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-28. Why do you think that Paul mentions joy, prayer, and thankfulness together like this?
- 4) What does it mean to “give thanks in all circumstances”? Why does Paul mention “for you who belong to Christ Jesus” in relation to giving thanks?
- 5) What does it mean to “never stop praying” or to “pray unceasingly”? How is this possible and what role does the Holy Spirit play in this? Read John 14:15-21 and John 16:5-15.
- 6) Why is it possible for a Christian to be thankful in the midst of the hardest trials? Read Romans 8:28. Can you share from your experience where a personal trial has brought good into your life?
- 7) Read Isaiah 53:10-12. What does this tell us about God’s plan for Jesus and for us? How does God’s choice for Jesus impact us today as we seek to choose our path?
- 8) Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 in the Amplified Bible. What truth do you need to embrace today from this passage that will help you “choose Christ” as your King each and every day? How does this encourage you and motivate you? What action step is God asking you to take today?



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