

The Companioned



JOURNEY

1 Thessalonians 1

“Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

*To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.”*

We give thanks to God always for all of you,
constantly mentioning you in our prayers,

remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything.

For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and 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 delivers us from the wrath to come”

A Companioned Way

Paul, Sylvanus & Timothy

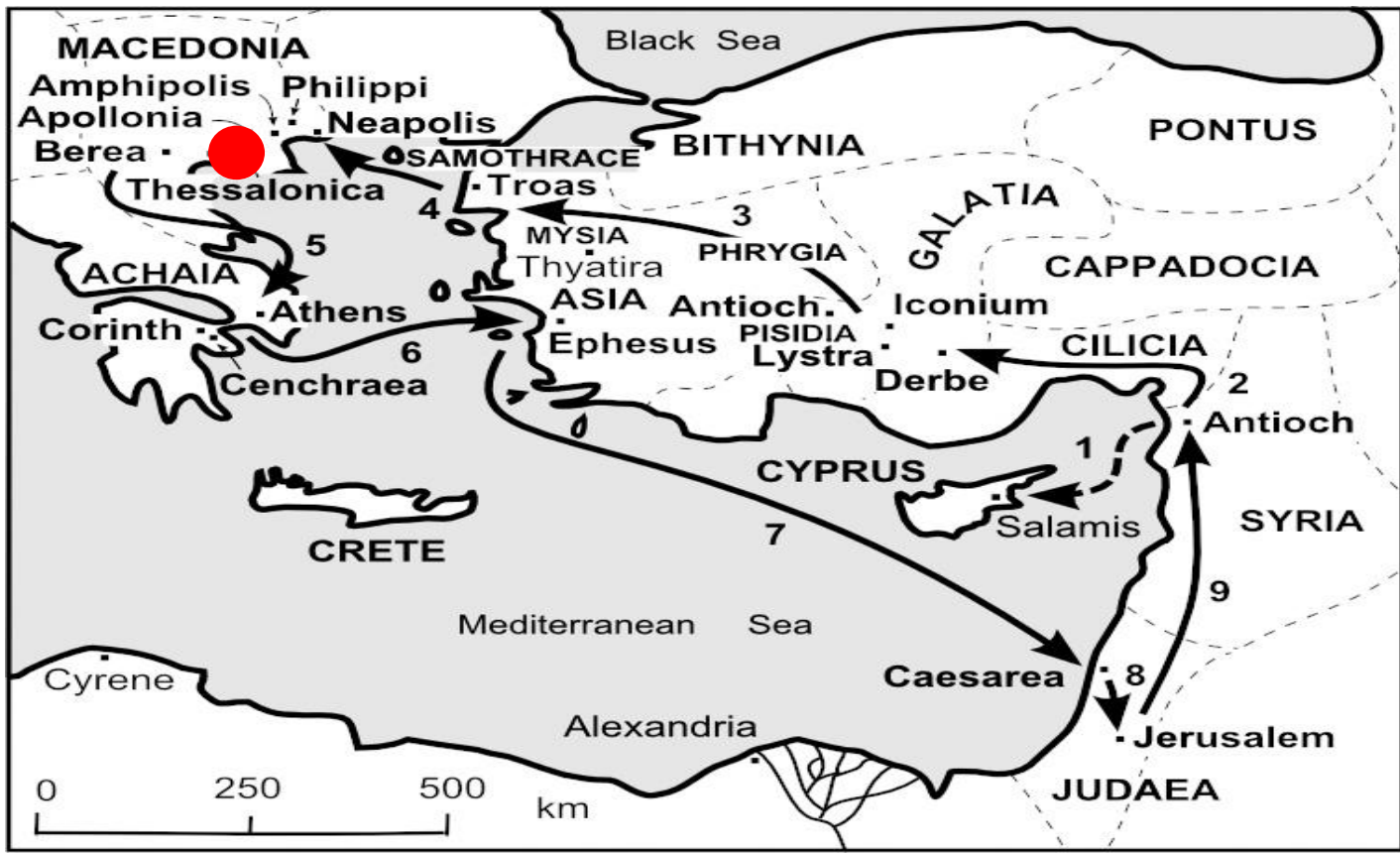
- companioning each other

The church of the Thessalonians

- companioning each other

in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

- companioning each other



Thanksgiving v 2-10

Three Sabbaths in Thessalonica

Left in the night - believers still under arrest

Great persecution

Devout Greeks (some familiarity with the scripture).

Influential women (Roman? Greek?)

A few Jewish believers

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Thankful in Prayer

- for all of them -who?
- mention you constantly -how often
- in the presence of **our** God -joy
- and Father - basis of the prayer

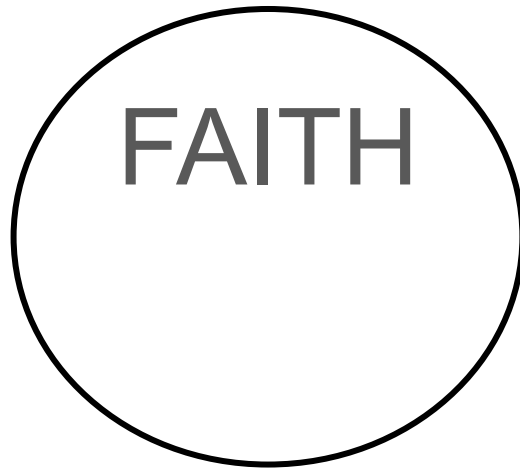
Thankful for what?

What Paul recalls in presence of God our Father

*work produced by faith

*labor motivated by love

*endurance empowered by hope



“To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and **every work of faith** by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Do you have a **vision of life** to which you have committed your total being?

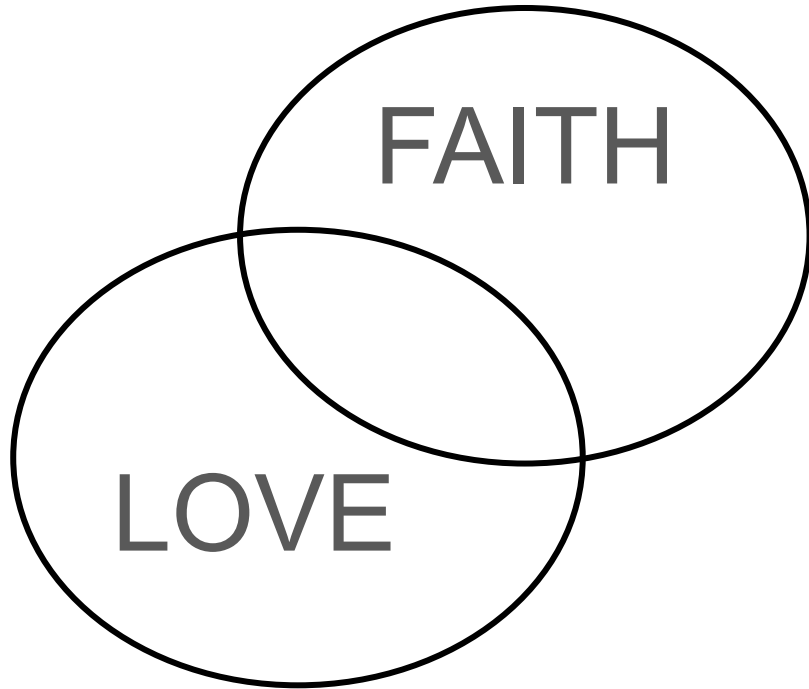
Vision born out of radical acts of identification with persons and circumstances where their futurity of being is being crushed, blocked, or exploited.

Incarnation of Jesus:

live as sign of the Father's kingdom

“A form of faith in which the reality of God - transcendent and ever exceeding our grasp - exerts transforming and redeeming tension on the structures of our common life”

“... to give **flesh and communal form** to the anticipatory righteousness that is an advance colony of the kingdom”



For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. 2 Cor 5:14-15

Do you have a **vision of community** to which you have committed your total being?

Vision born out of radical acts of denying your insular and independent self and choosing to live in a community with multiple points of connection marked by openness and vulnerability.

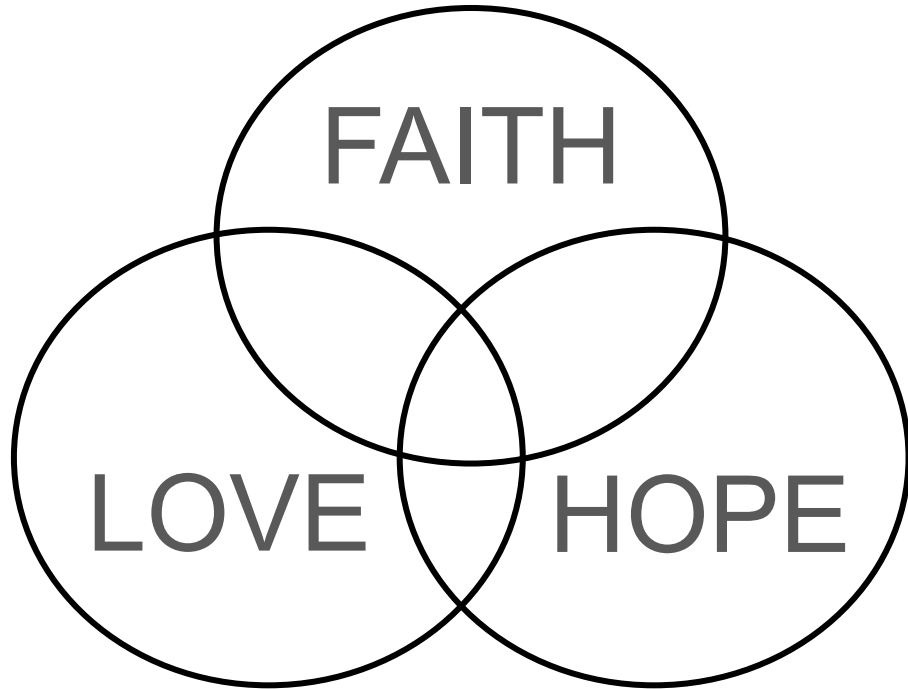
Crucifixion of Jesus

foretaste of new humanity on earth.

We are responsible for testifying to the depth of the human capacity for personal, corporate, and systemic sin. This becomes evident to us when we reflect upon the intractability of our own and our companions' capacities for self-righteousness and destructive behaviors toward others.

Responsible to repent, forgive, and live in harmony.

Die to self - live for others.



We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, **because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.**

Colossians 1:3-5a

Do you have a **vision of the future** to which you have committed your total being?

Without expecting or requiring that others become Christians we are called to point to the hope of God and to the coming kingdom as the universal, shared future of all being.

Resurrection of Jesus:

instrument of the Spirit of God.

Work of faith, labor of love because of steadfastness of hope in God's future reality for us is scary stuff!

“People who live this way condemn our obsessions with our own security and awaken our taste and sense for the promises that are begotten through relationship with God. They kindle our imaginations in these ways because in their generosity and authority, in their freedom and their costly love they embody the promise and lure of our shared hope.

These persons embody costly openness to the power of what the resurrection can do in us.

They actualize its promises, creating zones of liberation and sending shock waves to rattle the cages that we allow to constrict the future God is already giving us in the present”

**INCARNATIONAL
MISSION**

*Sing of the
Father's Kingdom*

*Faith in
Action*

**JESUS
CHRIST**

**CRUCIFIXION-STYLED
COMMUNITY**

*Foretaste of new
humanity in Christ* | *Love in
Action*

**RESURRECTION
EMPOWERED
MOVEMENT**

*Instrument
of the Spirit* | *Hope in
Action*



urban abbey
REFLECTING THE FACE OF JESUS





the
HABIT



urban
abbey

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



















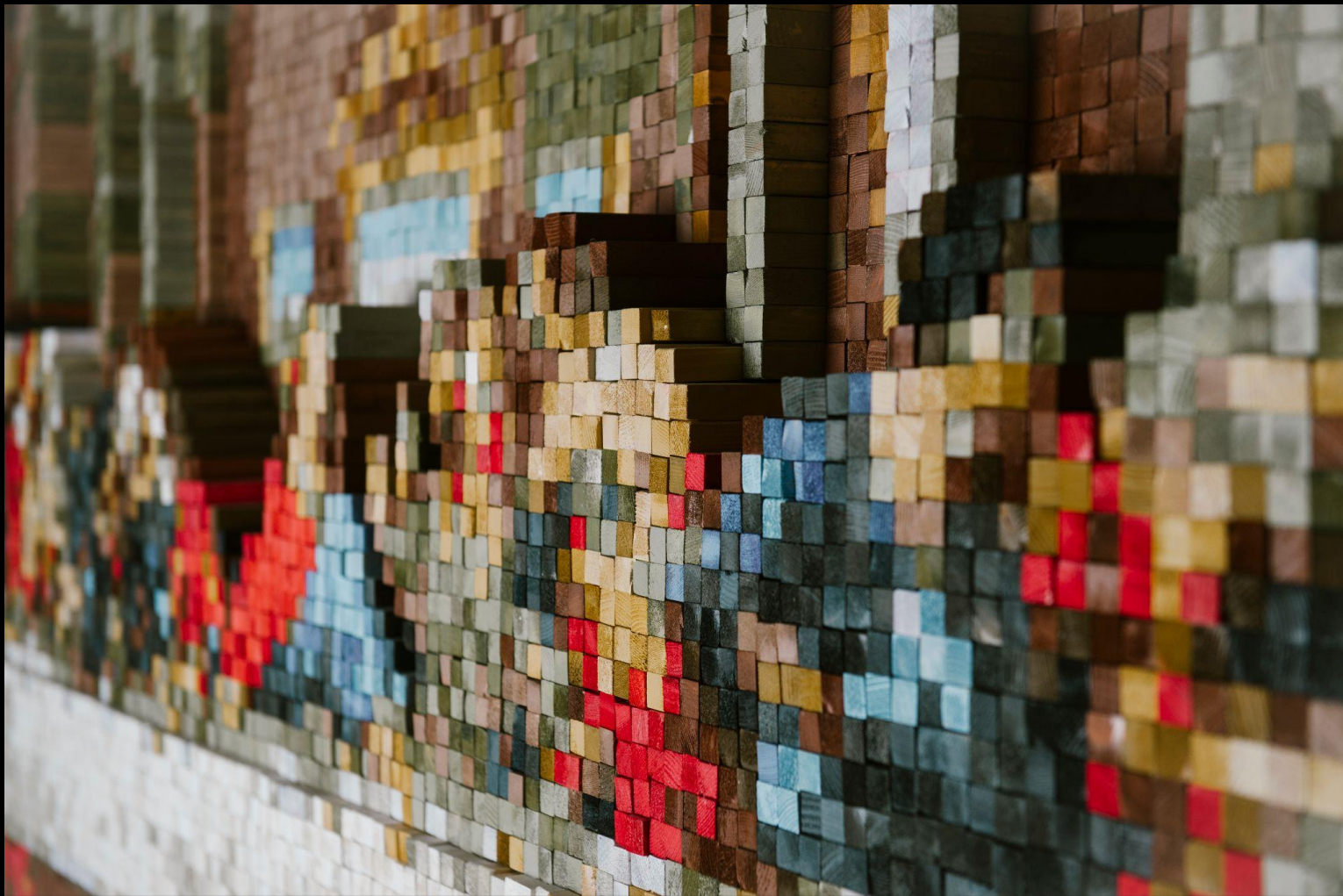


























Before



After



Prayer Tower Grand Opening March 27th

3pm Celebration with Prayer & Music
4-6pm Tour the Tower & Enjoy Refreshments











The Divine Office: Our Prayer Services



Prime: 6am

We rise to greet the day.
In the Name of Jesus we engage in Lectio Divina and prayer to commemorate the resurrection of our Lord from the grave, as His night became day!



Terce: 9am

We rejoice in the Word of the Lord.
For the Sake of Jesus we do Psalms reading and seek the illumination of the Spirit to discern as earthed persons how to choose the way of the cross!



Sext: 12pm

We cry out on behalf of the human family.
For the glory of Jesus, Lord of Sabaoth, we listen to ancient poetry and petition for humanity - that this tossed and restless sea would find rest in God!



None: 3pm

We intercede for the church of Thunder Bay.
In the fellowship of Jesus, we do Psalms reading and pray for the unity of the Christian family and the needs of our sisters and brothers around the city!



Vespers: 6pm

We pour out our hearts for the city of Thunder Bay.
Through the redemption of Jesus, we proclaim the Nicene Creed and pray for the peace and flourishing of all peoples in this great city that God has made!



Compline: 9pm

We prepare to sleep in the arms of God.
In the Peace of Jesus, together, we end our day, singing the Lord's song as exiles in a strange land - praying, confessing our sins and reading scripture!









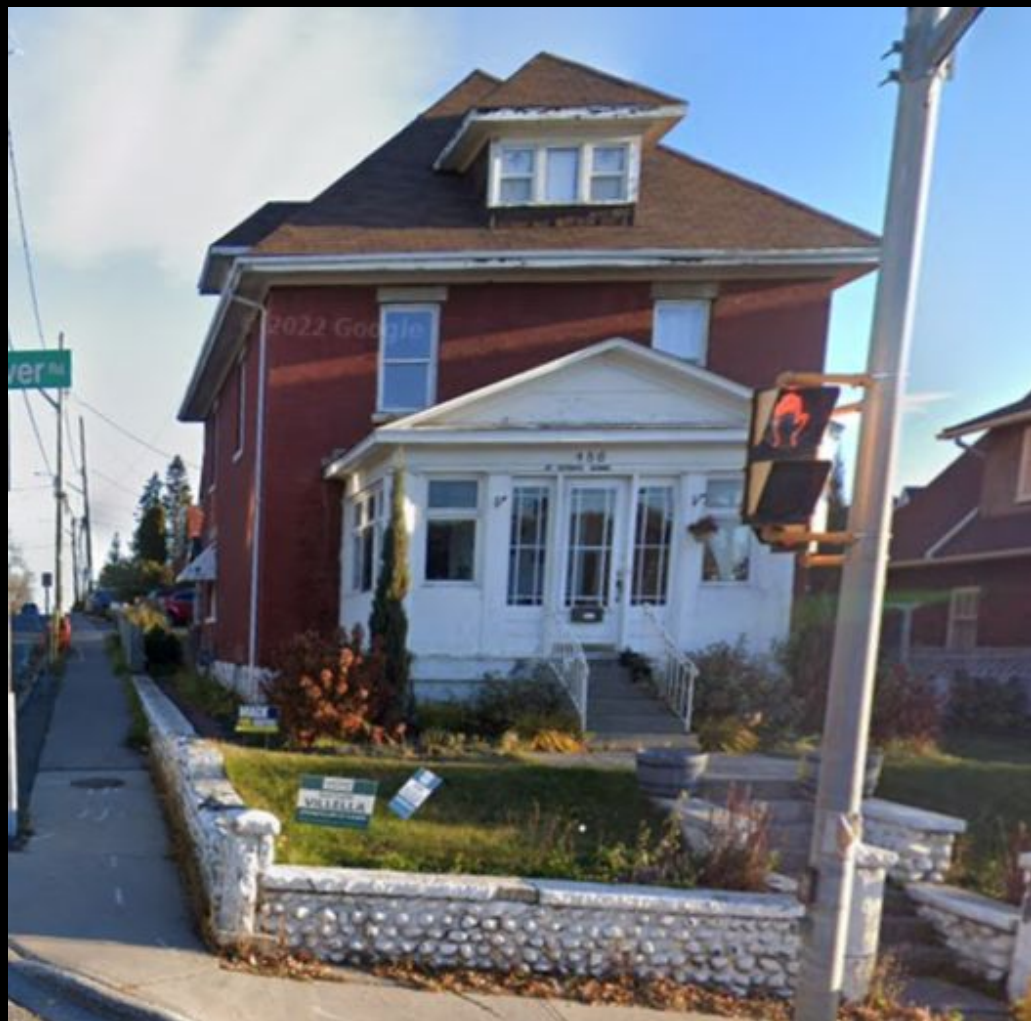


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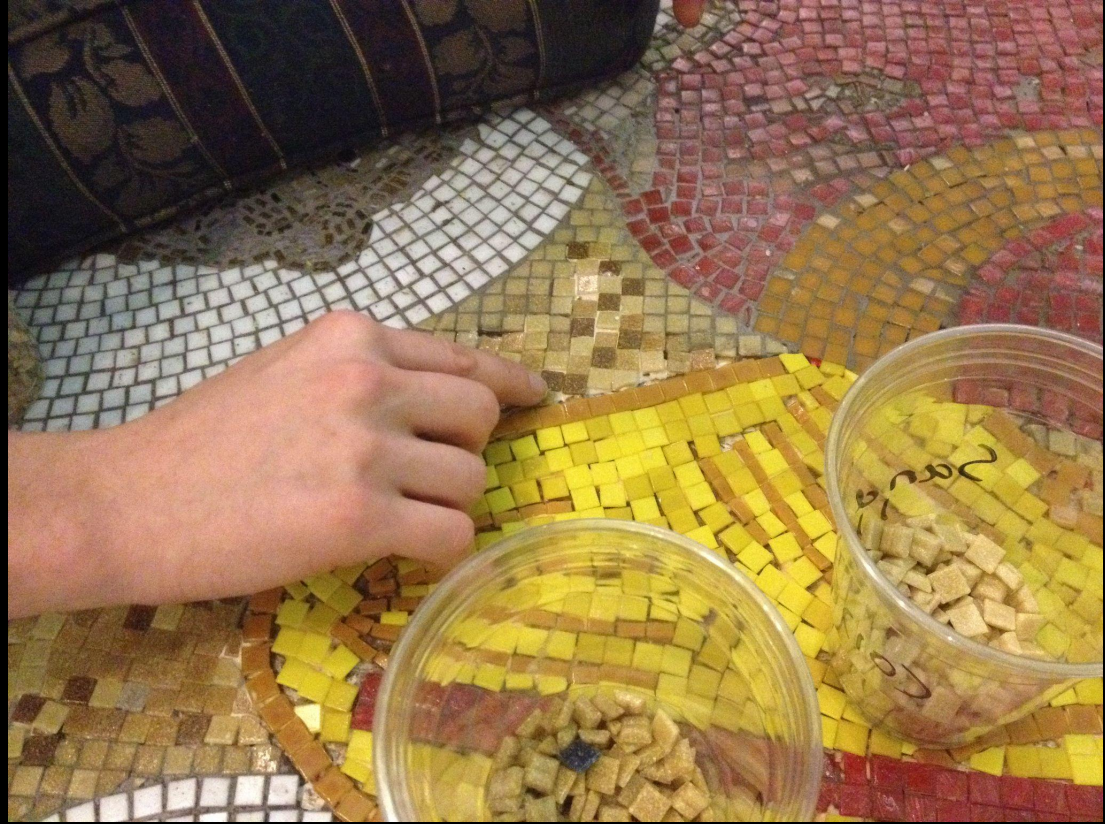
























WHY?

They are loved by God & chosen

- *Gospel came in word
- *Gospel came in power
- *Gospel came in the Holy Spirit
- *Gospel came with full assurance