

God's Blueprint for Faith Series

Study through the 1 Thessalonians

Part 1 – Chapter 1

Greeting

1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Thessalonians' Faith and Example

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak anything.

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Our Church

1 Thessalonians 1:2-4

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

- I love this church!
- I got married in this church
- I got saved in this church
- I surrendered in this church
- I get to serve in this church
- God is good

- **Our church is not perfect, but God gave me something in this passage!**

- **Our Church has people serving God today that pray and thank God for what Our Church means to them in their ministries**
 - Our church, by Our church I mean those who have worked and served in Faith, faithfully over the years
 - Whether it be a Sunday school class
 - Canvassing neighborhoods
 - picking up bus kids
 - cleaning the building
 - weeding the flower box
 - help build a barn or swing set
 - serve in the furniture ministry
 - Our church has a testimony of faithfulness to the glory of God
- **Our church labors in love**
 - Our motives matter!
 - We may not be motivated properly every time, but every time we are God is glorified
 - I believe most times we are motivated by the Love we have for Christ!
- **Our Church labors in love with patience...**
 - We are not a big church, but we have the hope to be what God wants
 - We have learned to wait on God's Working
 - My hope is that we never let go of the hope that God is doing great things with our little offering
- **Our Church does this because we know Who has chosen us!**
 - We haven't been chosen by a committee
 - We haven't been chosen by government
 - We haven't been chosen by our family

- We have been chosen by our Creator God for a divine, holy, powerful purpose

5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

- **Our Church knows the Gospel**

- This is the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ the Savior and Redeemer of all mankind for all time
- These are **not just words**
- These should be truths we live out each day
 - We are not to just receive the gospel
 - We are to live out the gospel in our lives
 - This is death & burial to self as we allow the Spirit of God to live as Christ through us
- We follow the examples of those that we have heard the gospel from, as we witnessed them live it in their lives
 - I thank God for Pastor Barnes and Pastor Groves
 - Not to mention the members that have come before us
 - Or the men of God that have been used over the years
- We are not to allow hard times to detour us from our follow, that is how we are to be faithful

- As we follow Christ and the Christlike examples that have come before us, we too are to be examples to those that follow

8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak anything.

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

- **Our church has been used to send out the Word of God**
 - Through our foreign mission fields
 - Through social media
 - Through the platforms God has given us
 - And we MUST persevere to continue to spread the Gospel of Christ
- This is again a testimony to those who have forged the path of faithful gospel living here at Faith
 - They turned from their old lives and followed after Christ
 - We must turn from anything that would become more important than Christ and His gospel as we endeavor to follow Him more each day
- We cannot stop until we are with Him

- “Our church” is something I have said a lot today
 - This is not my church
 - This is not your church
 - It is not even our church as that we are God's Church
 - We are to be the body of Christ
 - But...it is my desire that we, the people sitting under the sound of my voice, take ownership of these facts
 - Each of us **MUST** take ownership of the fact that God has chosen to show you mercy and grace
 - Each of us **MUST** take ownership of the fact that we are not here to sit and soak we are here to love and provoke
 - **Hebrews 10:24** And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
 - Each of us **MUST** understand that we are to invest ourselves into this church for the glory of God
 - **Romans 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service.*
 - **2Corinthians 9:6** But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
 - 7** Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

- Each of us **MUST** understand that we are in this together and only together will be the body of Christ we have been chosen to be
 - **Ephesians 4:11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.