

They Prioritized

"...He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you." (v. 6)

KEY IDEAS:

- The standard of the Bible is not friendship but family
- Biblical conviction produces transforming love and lasting loyalty

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Their love was ______ in a time of great division

FINAL THOUGHT:

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WHEN CHRISTIANS GET IT WRONG

1 THESSALONIANS - PART 3

A STUDY ON 1 THESSALONIANS WEEKLY CHAPTER THEMES

Chapter 1 THE RIGHT **MOTIVE** Christ's Heart

"We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love..." (v. 3)

Chapter 2 THE RIGHT **METHOD** Christ's Strategy

"You know we "For now we never used really live. flattery, nor did since you are we put on a standing firm in mask to cover the Lord." (v. 8) up greed..." (v. 5)

Chapter 3 Chapter 4 THE RIGHT **THE RIGHT MASTER** METTLE Christ's Christ's Strength Authority

"For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord

Chapter 5 THE RIGHT **MINDSET** Christ's Return

"But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise Jesus." (v. 2) you like a thief." (v. 4)

RESET THE CONTEXT:

•	A rough	start: -	The (church	starts	in 49	A.D.	and	shortly	afte
	Paul is _									

•	A replacement Pastor: Paul sends young
	to lead the church

•	A report that surprises: Paul sees their
	is stronger than their circumstance

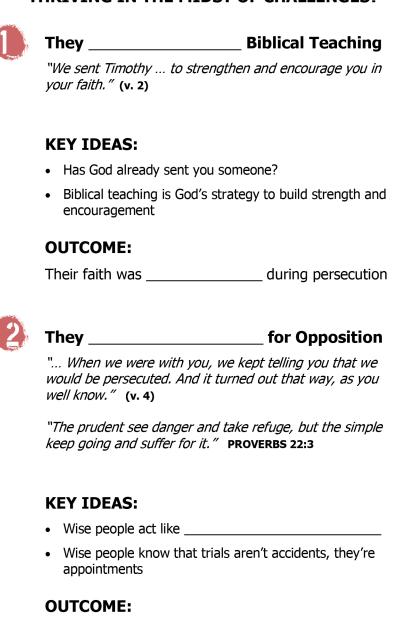
1 THESSALONIANS 3

¹So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. ²We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, ³so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. ⁴In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. ⁵For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain.

⁶But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. ⁷Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. ⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

WHY WAS THE CHURCH AT THESSALONICA THRIVING IN THE MIDST OF CHALLENGES?



Their convictions were

temptation

in the midst of