



## 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

### OUTCOME:

Their love was \_\_\_\_\_ in a time of great division

### FINAL THOUGHT:

Their lives inspired \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11-13)



Text **REFUEL** to **56316** to receive daily devotionals.



# WHEN CHRISTIANS GET IT ~~WRONG~~ RIGHT

## 1 THESSALONIANS – PART 3

### A STUDY ON 1 THESSALONIANS WEEKLY CHAPTER THEMES

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
<b>THE RIGHT MOTIVE</b> Christ's Heart	<b>THE RIGHT METHOD</b> Christ's Strategy	<b>THE RIGHT METTLE</b> Christ's Strength	<b>THE RIGHT MASTER</b> Christ's Authority	<b>THE RIGHT MINDSET</b> Christ's Return
"We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love..." (v. 3)	"You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed..." (v. 5)	"For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord." (v. 8)	"For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus." (v. 2)	"But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief." (v. 4)

### RESET THE CONTEXT:

- A rough start: The church starts in 49 A.D. and shortly after 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

<sup>1</sup>So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. <sup>2</sup>We 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, <sup>3</sup>so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. <sup>4</sup>In 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. <sup>5</sup>For 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.

<sup>6</sup>But 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. <sup>7</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. <sup>8</sup>For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. <sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup>May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup>May 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?

1

**They \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical Teaching**

*"We sent Timothy ... to strengthen and encourage you in your faith." (v. 2)*

### KEY IDEAS:

- Has God already sent you someone?
- Biblical teaching is God's strategy to build strength and encouragement

### OUTCOME:

Their faith was \_\_\_\_\_ during persecution

2

**They \_\_\_\_\_ for Opposition**

*"... When we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know." (v. 4)*

*"The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it." PROVERBS 22:3*

### KEY IDEAS:

- Wise people act like \_\_\_\_\_
- Wise people know that trials aren't accidents, they're appointments

### OUTCOME:

Their convictions were \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of temptation