AnticipationLiving In Light Of Eternity

The Power Of The Gospel 1 Thessalonians 1:5-7



Sermon Notes | Jeff Randleman | February 16, 2025

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.

	- 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7 (ESV)
The Example of Paul, Silas, and Timothy (verse 5):	
The Response of the Thessalonians (verses 6-7): They became imitators.	
They experienced affliction.	
They became an example to others.	
They experienced joy.	



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Matters for Reflection and Discussion:

- 1. Read, in context, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7. How did Paul, Silas, and Timothy serve as examples to the Thessalonians? What qualities made their ministry so impactful?
- 2. The Thessalonians became imitators of Paul and his companions. What does it mean to be an imitator of godly leaders, and how can we apply this in our own spiritual growth?
- 3. The Thessalonians experienced affliction but remained steadfast in their faith. How should we respond to trials and opposition as followers of Christ?
- 4. How did the story of Blandina impact you? What stands out about her example?
- 5. In what ways can suffering serve to strengthen and refine a believer's faith rather than weaken it?
- 6. Paul notes that the Thessalonians became an example to other believers. What characteristics make someone a strong example of faith, and how can we develop those qualities?
- 7. How does living out our faith impact those around us? Can you think of an example where someone's faith encouraged or challenged you?
- 8. The Thessalonians experienced joy in the midst of affliction. How is this possible, and what does it reveal about the work of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life?
- 9. Reflecting on this passage, how can we become people whose faith inspires and encourages others? What steps can we take to ensure our faith is both genuine and contagious?

