

***Growing Stronger in Christ***

Walking the hard but steady path of spiritual maturity

1 Thessalonians

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**Faith builds Faith**

***1 Thessalonians 3:1-10***

**Basic Premise:** The result of Paul’s concern for the Thessalonians was that Paul himself was comforted

I. Ministry does not have to be in person (1-2)

 (Even though Paul couldn’t go, Timothy was sent out of his concern for the Thessalonian’s faith)

1. Ministry can be done in person, through others, and from the Bible
2. Purpose of ministry is to share the “good news” of the salvation offered by faith in Jesus

Are you taking advantage of receiving ministry from the Bible?

II. An established faith enables believers to endure expected adversity (3-4)

 (Timothy was sent to encourage, strengthen, and comfort the church amidst anticipated afflictions)

 A. 1 Thessalonians, along with Paul’s other letters, show that believers will experience adversity.

 B. Having our faith strengthened allows believers to stand firm in the face of affliction.

III. Believers encourage each other in faith to overcome temptation (5)

 (Paul’s fatherly concern for their faith because of adversity)

 A. Satin thwarts our plans and tempts us to

 B. We don’t need to fear Satan, we need to encourage one another.

IV. Believers are encouraged when other believers stay strong in their faith (6-8)

 (The good news of the Thessalonian’s steadfast faith brought Paul comfort)

 A. The many similarities with the preceding verses demonstrate that this is a key part of the passage

V. Believers give all thanks to God and continue to pray for others (9-10)

 (Paul praises God for their faith and prays for the opportunity to further that faith)

Faith Builds Faith!