



Growing Stronger in Christ

Walking the hard but steady path of spiritual maturity

1 Thessalonians

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)
 - A. Ministry can be done in person, through others, and from the Bible
 - B. 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. Satan 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!