

Jesus Strong
Week 5 - 1 Thessalonians
November 1st 2020

The Challenge... to live...

- ... in Fellowship with each other.
- ... spending time in Scripture each day.
- ... worshipping with your church each week

Part 1 - Virtues that Produce

Written by Paul.

- Paul found the Church in Thessalonica on his 2nd missionary journey. (Acts 17)
- He was violently forced out of Thessalonica after 3 short weeks but the church still thrived.
- Went to nearby Berea and face the same violent opposition.
- Paul then moved onto Athens with mixed results in preaching the Gospel.
- The 2nd Missionary journey took Paul to Corinth for an extended period.
- The framework of this letter has to do with Timothy and Silas coming to Paul to report on the church in Thessalonica.
- Despite Persecution and much opposition the church was thriving.

The Why Behind the Letter:

- Paul is encouraged at their faith, love, and endurance and wants to spur them onto greater maturity in Jesus.

Following the way of Jesus _____ transformational virtues.

- **Faith** → _____
- **Love** → _____
- **Hope** → _____

“Enthusiasm is common. Endurance is rare.”

— Angela Duckworth, *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*

- **Faith transforms _____ we do.**
- **Love transforms _____ we do it.**
- **Hope transforms the _____ with which we go about it.**

Part 2 - Virtues that Protect

When Jesus returns, His people will live forever with Him.

Transformational virtues _____ following the way of Jesus.

→ **Faith + Love are like a breastplate that protects the vitals.**

- Faith + Love protect the _____ of the way of Jesus.

→ **Hope is like a helmet that protects the head.**

- Hope of salvation protects _____ when following Jesus gets tough.

Reflection Questions:

- *What aspect of Jesus' return gives you the greatest hope?*
- *How will you live more faithfully until then?*

11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11