

First Thessalonians Study
Questions for First Thessalonians 2:17-3:6

1. (Challenge Question) How is Paul's faith intertwined with the Thessalonian's faith? To what event is Paul looking when he says that the Thessalonian believers are his hope, joy and crown. (v19). How does Paul's perspective impact your thinking regarding the gospel and your hope, joy and crown?

2. Read Acts 17:10-15. Why was Paul in Athens? What do verses 3:2-4 tell us were Paul's main concern for the new believers in Thessalonica? What does verse 4 say was an integral part of the gospel that Paul preached? Is it an integral part of the gospel you preach?

3. Read John 15:18-27. How do these verses shed light on
 - A. The experiences of the Thessalonian church?

 - B. The experiences of the 21st century church

 - C. Your experiences in the American church?

4. In Matthew 5:11-12 Jesus says we are 'blessed' when we are insulted and persecuted and that we should 'rejoice and be glad'. How is it possible to 'rejoice' when we are threatened and ill-treated by those who hate Christ? Have you ever been insulted or abused because of your faith? If you have, how did you react?

5. Take a moment to reflect on all that you have explored thus far in this study of 1 Thessalonians. What are one or two things that you have learned that you would like to work on in the coming week?