

Chi Alpha
Context Resource
1 Thessalonians

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(use this as a reference throughout the plan)

- Always ask, “How does this point/relate back to the Gospel?” throughout everything you read.
- Author:
- Paul wrote this during his second missionary journey in Corinth
 - Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy traveled with him (plural pronouns refer to them)
- Setting:
- Thessalonica - the capital of Macedonia and the hub of political and commercial activity
 - Under the Roman Empire
- Background:
- Acts 17
 - Silas and Paul go to the ancient Greek city of Thessalonica
 - After one month of evangelizing, Jews and Greeks gave their allegiance to Jesus and the first church community was formed; the church was founded
 - Paul and Silas had to flee from the city because they were accused of defying the Roman emperor, Caesar, (they were claiming Jesus as King instead) which led to an intense persecution
 - Leaving was painful for them because they loved the people there so much
- Paul writes this letter from Corinth
- This letter is Paul’s attempt to reconnect with the people of Thessalonica after he got a report from Timothy that they were flourishing despite the intense persecution
- 1 Thess 1-3 - a celebration of faithfulness
- 1 Thess 4-5 - a challenge to grow