

THANKSGIVING AND ENCOURAGEMENT 1 THESSALONIANS 2

Chi Alpha Lifegroup Guide 1 Thessalonians

LESSON PREP

- Identify the gospel truths in the chapter
- Read Eph 4:1-3; Phil 1:27-30; Col 1:10-14

PRE LG TEXT MESSAGE QUESTIONS

Do you find it annoying when someone talks too much about themselves? Do you ever catch yourself doing it? This is what we'll be discussing at Lifegroup tonight as we continue our study on the book of 1 Thessalonians.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

1 Thessalonians 2:8

10N1 FOLLOW UP

What are some of the motives you've realized to some of your choices, actions, and words?

OVERVIEW

The following video by The Bible Project gives a great overview of the book of 1 Thess.: <https://youtu.be/No7Nq6IX23c>

INTRODUCTION

- Do you ever find yourself having a self-centered mentality?
- It's natural for humans, but why is being self-centered a problem, especially for a Christ follower?

The focus of your experience (1 Thess. 2:1-16)

- On the surface, it seems as if Paul's main focus is on himself and his ministry. However, what word appears 14 times in these verses? (God)
- Paul's perspective is God-centered.
- When telling your testimony, experiences, actions who is your perspective God-centered or you-centered?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *It is extremely clear in everything that Paul wrote that his focus was on God alone, not on himself, his circumstances, or even the friends he was writing to. Everything we say and do should be filtered through a God-focused lens. Not to say that we can't do other things or have other interests, but everything we do, from our jobs, to our hobbies, to our relationships with others, should be handled in a way that is pleasing to God.*

Walk in a manner worthy of God (1 Thess. 2:1-12)

- In v. 1-12, what does Paul clarify concerning his message, motives, and methods?
- What does it mean to walk in a manner worthy of God?
- Also see: Eph 4:1-3; Phil 1:27-30; Col 1:10-14

Suffer for the Gospel (1 Thess. 2:13-18)

- V. 14-15 is not just a call for the apostles. How does it apply to you and me today?
- Have you ever suffered relationally, socially, or physically for your Christian faith?
- V. 18 says "...but Satan hindered us." What are some dangers of being under-aware of the demonic realm? What are some dangers of being over-aware of the demonic realm?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *Satan can hinder our plans and tempt our hearts, but we have a helper that gives us strength to fight, a community that points us to Christ, and a Savior that has given us an eternal hope. Fixing our focus on this eternal hope helps us endure in times of severe trial.*

APPLICATION

Gospel stewardship must be accompanied by pure methods and motives. Deeply and honestly evaluate your motives to your every word and action.

