

Letters to the Thessalonians

Feb 26, 2020 to April 1, 2020

First Redeemer Church

Wednesday nights

SESSION 2 – March 4, 2020

Schedule for Letters to the Thessalonians

	Dates	Chapters covered	
✓	Feb 26, 2020	1 Thess Intro - Ch 1 & 2A	
✓	Mar 4, 2020	1 Thess Ch 2B -3	
	Mar 11, 2020	1 Thess Chapters 4-5A	
	Mar 18, 2020	1 Thess Chapter 5	
	Mar 25, 2020	2 Thess Ch 1-2A	
	Apr 1, 2020	2 Thess Ch 2B-3	

Quick Reminder of Chapter 1

- Paul's Greeting 1:1
 - Grace and Peace to you, from Paul, Silas, and Timothy
- Paul's Personal Thought about
 - The Church in Thessaloniki
 - INSPIRED by Holy Spirit
 - Passionate and committed belief. Gospel "*RANG OUT*" from them
 - Evangelistic and supportive of each other in their persecution
 - The Believers in the church
 - Your work produced by FAITH
 - Your labor prompted by LOVE
 - Your Endurance inspired by HOPE in Jesus Christ
- Comparison between Thessalonian Church and environment and FRC Church and today's environment
- Expectation of the Coming of the Lord
 - Deliver us from *the Coming Wrath*

1 Thessalonians Ch 2:1-6

2 You know, **brothers and sisters**, that our visit to you **was not without results**. **2** We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God **we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition**.

3 For the appeal we make **does not spring from error or impure motives**, nor are we trying to **trick you**. **4** On the contrary, we speak as those **approved by God** to be **entrusted with the gospel**. **We are not trying to please people but God**, who tests our hearts.

5 You know we never used **flattery**, nor did we put on a **mask to cover up greed**—God is our witness. **6** We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority

1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

⁷ Instead, we were like young children (were **gentle**) **among you**.

Just as a **nursing mother cares for her children**, ⁸ so we cared for you. Because **we loved you so much**, we were delighted to share with you **not only the gospel of God but our lives** as well. ⁹ Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, **our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden** to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and so is God, of how **holy, righteous and blameless we were** among you who believed. ¹¹ For you know that we dealt with each of you as a **father deals with his own children**, ¹² **encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God**, who **calls** you into his kingdom and glory.

1 Thessalonians 2: 13-16

¹³ And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you **accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God**, which is indeed at work in you who believe. ¹⁴ For you, brothers and sisters, **became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own people** the same things those churches suffered from the **Jews** ¹⁵ **who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out.** They displease God and are hostile to everyone ¹⁶ **in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved.** In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. **The wrath of God has come upon them at last.**

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

¹⁷ But, brothers and sisters, when we were orphaned by being separated from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), **out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you.**

¹⁸ For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—***but Satan blocked our way.***

¹⁹ For what is **our hope, our joy, or the crown** in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?

²⁰ Indeed, **you are our glory and joy.**

1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

3 So when we could **stand it no longer**, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. **2 We sent Timothy**, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to **strengthen and encourage you in your faith**,

3 so that no one would be unsettled by these **trials**. For you know **quite well** that we are **destined for them**.

4 In fact, **when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted**. And it turned out that way, as you well know. **5** For this reason, **when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith**. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain.

1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

⁶ But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought **good news about your faith and love**. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. ⁷ Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. ⁸ For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. ⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

1 Thessalonians 3: 11-13

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus **clear the way for us to come to you.**

¹² May the Lord **make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.**

¹³ May he **strengthen your hearts** so that you will be **blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father** when our **Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.**

Marks of a Godly Leader

Verse - 1 Thess. Chapter 2	A Godly Minister...	Observations
2:3	Speaks the truth and has pure motives in doing so	No half truths and no agendas
2:4	Seeks to please God, not people	Clearly doing God's will and God's truth with no compromise
2:5	Does not flatter; is not greedy	Not a manipulator
2:6	Does not seek people's praises	No grandstanding or self aggrandizing
2:7	Is gentle, like a nursing mother caring for her children	Puts her life on hold for the higher calling of children (or believers)
2:8	Loves the believers and willingly shares both his life and the Gospel with them	Is not aloof but willingly mixes and shares his life with the flock
2:9	Works hard so as not to be a burden to anyone while sharing the Good News	Not a slacker, but is visible to all that he earns his money
2:10	Is Pure, honest, and faultless toward believers	No psycho-babble to deceive believers
2:11	Treats the believer as a good father would treat his children	Be an example not just in word but in deed
2:12	Willingly pleads, encourages, and urges believers to live in a way Worthy of God's calling	Includes discipline as necessary

Of course this not an exhaustive list of all the characteristics, but it is great Start.

These come from the accusations Against Paul by the persecutors of the Thessalonians