

Sermon Supplement from September 10

Faithfully Following Jesus In The Meantime | 1 Thess. 1:1-10

Warm Up

- Talk about some wrong or unhelpful ways Christians tend to focus on end times.

Dig In

- How does the background information about the city of Thessalonica discussed in the sermon help you better understand the situation of these two letters? (Political, economic, religious, social importance)
- How does Acts 16-17 help you better understand the circumstances surrounding the writing of these letters?
- What do you think about the fact that 1 Thess 1:1-10 are explanations and commendations and there are no commands? What does that tell you about the people this letter was written to?
- Read through verses 2-10 and come up with a list of evidences that these people were faithfully following Jesus. Don't worry about reproducing the sermon points, just come up with your own list.
- Which of these really stand out to you? Why?
- How does the end times theme show up in this passage? Why is it important?

Apply

- From what you've learned in this study, what might you put into practice to help you faithfully follow Jesus in the meantime?
- Are there areas in your life where you have not been faithfully following Jesus?
- Spend time in prayer, confess your shortcomings and ask God to help you faithfully follow Jesus.

Weekly Bible Reading Guide – In order to help you engage with God's Word and our Sunday sermons, we suggest using the exercises below as part of your personal Bible reading and study for the coming week.

Next Week's Sermon Text - 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

1. Read the text at least 5 times (in different translations if possible)
2. Answer some basic investigative questions such as: *What are important terms or concepts? What is the tone? What is emphasized, repeated or related? Are there significant comparisons or contrasts? What verses or ideas jump out at you?*
3. Make a list of terms, people, places, or ideas that you need to research further? Use a study Bible, Bible dictionary, or digital resources to help you understand these.
4. In your own words, what is the big idea of this text?

5. Consult 1 or more of the resources listed below. How does this expand your understanding of the text?
6. Apply It: What are the major points of application from this text? How does what you have learned impact the way you think, feel, or act?

Resources

- A good Study Bible such as the ESV Study Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, Faithlife Study Bible (free app),
- Video Introduction: Watch The Bible Project summary videos for 1&2 Thessalonians
- Study Guide: 1&2 Thessalonians and Titus MacArthur Bible Study Guide
- Basic Commentary: 1&2 Thessalonians For You Ligon Duncan
- In-depth Commentary: The Letters to the Thessalonians Pillar New Testament Commentary, Gene L. Green
- In-depth sermon series: Visit gty.org to find John MacArthur's verse by verse sermon series' on these two books.