

1 Thessalonians 2v1-16 A FAITHFUL MINISTER

Last week – A Flourishing Church (Ch 1) This week – A Faithful Minister (Ch 2)

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Minister = Servant

Waiting in Corinth...

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3v6: But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought **good news** about your faith and love.



V1-2: 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.



Acts 16v22-24: The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. ²³ After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. ²⁴ When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.



Acts 16v40: After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, <u>they went to Lydia's</u> <u>house</u>, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. <u>Then they left</u>.



V2: 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.



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"He who stands best kneels most"

2) Stewardship



V3-4: 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

2) Stewardship



V5: You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed – God is our witness.

V6-8: 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. ⁷ Instead, we were like young children 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.

• Tenderness



- Tenderness
- Time



- Tenderness
- Time
- Toil



V9: 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.

Are you gentle as well as truthful in your dealings with other people?

Are you gentle as well as truthful in your dealings with other people?

Do you show genuine interest in other people's lives?

Are you gentle as well as truthful in your dealings with other people?

Do you show genuine interest in other people's lives?

Are you willing to make the sacrifices necessary to bring the good news of the gospel to bear upon the lives of others?

V11: For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children...

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- His Character
- His Concern

• His Character...

V10: You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

His Concern...



V11-12: 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.

A Faithful Minister of the gospel...

- 1) Perseverance
- 2) Stewardship
- 3) Sacrifice
- 4) Integrity