

## Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

## Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

## WHAT EVERY CHURCH SHOULD BE

### 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

**Main Thought:** In 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 1:2-10, we discover four traits that should characterize every church.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE (vv 1-3)
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ produced by faith.
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ prompted by love.
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ inspired by hope.
  - 4) How is faith, hope, and love demonstrated in our lives?
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE (vv 4-7)
  - 1) Receptive to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) Receptive to the \_\_\_\_\_ of godly teachers.
  - 3) Are we receptive to God's Word and the work the Holy Spirit is doing in our lives?
3. AN \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE (vv 8-9)
  - 1) \_\_\_\_\_ the good news of Jesus with others.
  - 2) Because God had \_\_\_\_\_ their lives.
  - 3) Are we enthusiastically sharing Jesus with others?
4. AN \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE (v 10)
  - 1) Looking forward to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) Are we waiting expectantly for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming?

### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS**

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. What did Paul remember about Christians in Thessalonica that caused him to be grateful?

8. What is work produced by faith? What is the relationship between faith and works? (See James 2:14-26)

9. What is labor prompted by love? What does that look like?

10. What is endurance inspired by hope? Hope in what?

11. How did Paul know that God had chosen the believers in Thessalonica?

12. What was going on at the time the people in Thessalonica put their faith in Jesus? What emotions accompanied their conversion? How were their lives transformed?

13. What did they do with the message once they received it?

14. What should we be doing as we wait for Christ's return?