

**Series "Fixed On 66"**  
**"1 Thessalonians"**  
**Book-52**

**Key Passage: 1 Thessalonians 5:9**

**1 Thessalonians** presents **"The Authentic Christian." The Real Thing, not a façade or a veneer, but the real thing! (Genuine through and through inside)**

Thessalonica was the site of one of Paul's most successful ministries. Having stayed there less than one month (**Acts 17:2**).

**The Author:** The Apostle Paul **1 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul** first person pronouns are used seven times.

**When Written:** Written about 50 A D during Paul's second Missionary Journey. That means one of Paul's earlier letters, **Galatians**, was probably first.

This letter to the church of **Thessalonians** was written at a very difficult time. It is about 15 years after Paul's conversion, which is less than 20 years after Jesus' crucifixion. In another 20 years, the Jews were going to be in full-blown rebellion against Rome, and Jerusalem would be leveled.

**Where it was Written:** From Corinth **Acts 18:5** Paul arrived in Corinth and Timothy came and reported the status of the church.

**Written To:** Believers of Thessalonica **1 Thessalonians 1:1 To the church of the Thessalonians** - Mixed congregation of Jews, Greeks, and Romans.

**Background:** Paul Planted the Church. **Acts 17:1-15** This church was birthed because of a vision on Paul's second missionary trip. **Acts 16:9-10**

Paul came and ministered in the Synagogue for 3-4 weeks. **Acts 17:1-2**

**Purpose:** Paul had to leave suddenly after a plot surfaced to murder him, so he wrote to reaffirm his love for them. **Acts 17:10**

1. To commend the faithfulness of the Thessalonians amid persecution (1:1-10).
2. To defend his personal conduct among them in the face of criticism (2:1-16).
3. To explain his absence from them (2:17-20).
4. To explain why he sent Timothy to them (3:1-13).

5. To instruct them in sexual purity (4:1-8); Holy living: They were living in Greek culture with barnyard ethics.
6. To admonish them to show brotherly love (4:9-12)
7. To correct doctrinal errors about the resurrection and the return of Christ (4:13-18), confusion over loved ones that had died, and the return of the Lord.
8. To explain the day of the Lord (5:1-13), persecution was so severe that some thought that the Day of the Lord had come.
9. To instruct them in Christian responsibility (5:14-28). There were some who were not respecting their leaders, were living undisciplined lives, and were confused.

**1 Thessalonians is a letter from a spiritual Father to his children.** (the word “**brethren**” or “**brother**” is used **17 times** in the first letter and **nine times** in the second)

**Theme: 1 Thessalonians** - *“The Authentic Christian.”* The real thing, not a façade or a veneer, but the real thing! (What’s inside).

**Every chapter in 1 Thessalonians ends with a reference to the coming of Jesus Christ.**

**1:10—The Return of Jesus Christ means Salvation and Assurance**

**2:19-20— The Return of Jesus Christ means Soul-Winning and Service**

**3:11-13— The Return of Jesus Christ means Stability in Christian Living**

**4:13-18— The Return of Jesus Christ means Strength in Sorrow**

**5:23-24— The Return of Jesus Christ means Sanctification of Life**

**Key Words: God 36 times, Lord 25 times, “brethren” or “brother” is used 17 times in the first letter and 7 times in the second, Faith 14 times.**

**Key Chapter: 1 Thessalonians 4** Ends the central section of the letter with the dead in Christ rising first and the rapture of the Church.

**Key Passage: 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10**

**Outline:**

**1 Thessalonians 1 Paul Remembers the Church**

**1 Thessalonians 2 Paul Reminds the Church**

**1 Thessalonians 3 Paul Responds to the Church**

**1 Thessalonians 4 Paul Rejoices with the Church**

**1 Thessalonians 5 Paul Readies the Church**

## **1 Thessalonians 1 Paul Remembers the Church:**

### **1 Thessalonians 1:1-4 Their Foundation Was Solid:**

#### **1 Thessalonians 1:1**

**in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:** In Paul's writings, he uses this phrase and similar. "*In Christ Jesus 48 times,*" "*In Christ 34 times,*" and "*In the Lord 50 times.*"

**1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 your work of faith,** notice **labor of love,** and notice **steadfastness of hope** - Notice faith, hope, and love.

**1 Corinthians 13:13 But now abide faith, hope, love,**

**1 Thessalonians 1:4 His choice of you;** He calls all, then the Spirit draws, and our part is to respond.

**1 Thessalonians 1:5 Church Was Spiritual: 1 Thessalonians 1:5 but also in power and in the Holy Spirit** - There is no message like the gospel message. **Romans 1:16**

**Power:** The Greek word *Dunamis* – we get our English word, *Dynamite*, *Dynamic*. Speaks of a *miraculous, supernatural power*.

**just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.** Paul is now describing the enabling power of God and holy behavior.

**The Message and the Messenger must go together.**

### **1 Thessalonians 1:6 Church Was Steadfast: 1 Thessalonians 1:6**

Here is a group of believers that came to Jesus in great opposition. **Psalms 34:19**

### **1 Thessalonians 1:7-8 Church Shared: 1 Thessalonians 1:7-8**

**For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, (Direct Preaching).** The phrase **sounded forth** - Literally "*to sound out as a trumpet or thunder.*" They were vocal about their faith.

### **1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 Church Was Secure: 1 Thessalonians 1:9 (3 Marks of Genuine Conversion)**

**1. You Turned: and how you turned to God from idols turned** – "*to convert, to turn around.*" Term for conversion, *repentance U-turn*, turning from darkness to light.

**2. To Serve: to serve a living and true God - Evidence of conversion is new life, and it is proved through one's service to God.**

## **1 Thessalonians 1:10**

**3. To Wait: and to wait for His Son** - The term **wait** – *"to remain in constant watch, day by day."*

## **1 Thessalonians 2 Paul Reminds the Church:**

### **1 Thessalonians 2:1-2 Paul's Entrance: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-2**

**we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God**  
This word **boldness:** *"to dare, speak freely, openly fearlessly."*  
*"Outspokenness, frankness, plainness of speech."*

### **1 Thessalonians 2:3-6 Paul's Exhortation: 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4**

**Seeking To Please God: so we speak, not as pleasing men but God, -**  
this is one of the most liberating keys to ministry.

### **1 Thessalonians 2:5-6**

### **1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 Paul's Affection: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8**

**1 Thessalonians 2:9 Paul's Endurance: 1 Thessalonians 2:9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day**  
*"our struggles and hard work."* *"Toil and hardship"* Paul was a tentmaker. (Acts 18:3; 20:34-35) That is ministry! **so as not to be a burden to any of you, -** No begging!

### **1 Thessalonians 2:10 Paul's Example: 1 Thessalonians 2:10**

**Paul's Walk: You are witnesses, and so is God, -** He calls to their minds that they and the Lord saw him in his behavior.

**how devoutly** *"holy, pious being pleasing to God," "carefully fulfilling the duties God gives to a person."*

**and uprightly** *"righteous our dealings with our neighbors"* **and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;** No accusation would stick!

### **1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 Paul's Expectation:**

### **1 Thessalonians 2:11-12**

**1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 Paul's Excitement: 1 Thessalonians 2:13**  
This should be our mindset when we come to a service or Bible study. We are hearing God's Word, not men's opinions.

## **1 Thessalonians 2:14-16**

**1 Thessalonians 2:17-18 Paul's Endeavor: 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18 and yet Satan hindered us. – hindered:** *"to cut into, to impede one's course by cutting off his way"* Idea of placing a roadblock.

## **1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 Paul's Incentive: 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20**

### **1 Thessalonians 3 Paul Responds to the Church**

**1 Thessalonians 3:1-5 Paul Sends Them A Helper:  
1 Thessalonians 3:1-5**

**1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 Paul Writes Them A Letter:  
1 Thessalonians 3:6-8**

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Paul Prays For Them:  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

Paul's letters are filled with prayer.

Paul's prayers were never for personal gain but for the Kingdom of God.

### **1 Thessalonians 4 Paul Rejoices with the Church**

Considering the imminent return of Christ, we should!

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Walk In Holiness: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-3**  
We belong to God; our lives are His possession and at His disposal. We are set apart to glorify Him. We are to be holy unto the Lord.

**1 Thessalonians 4:4-8**  
Any professing Christian who is not walking their talk or is justifying and making a license for sin is rejecting God.

**1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 Walk in Harmony: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10**

**1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 Walk in Honesty: 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Walk in Hope:**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-16 Revelation, Return, And Resurrection:  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-16**

**Revelation of God Verses Human Speculation.**

## **1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 Rapture and Reunion:**

### **1 Thessalonians 4:17-18**

What comfort this revelation brings. That we will be taken from here and rejoined to our Christian loved ones.

## **1 Thessalonians 5 Paul Readies The Church**

### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Be Ready: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**so then let us not sleep as others do,** - This is the reference to those outside Jesus Christ. They do not have the knowledge and are walking in darkness.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:7-11**

**“Bible Prophecy should lead to practical living, not just big heads.”**

### **1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 How to Be Ready:**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 Honor Your Leaders:**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**

Christians should not be a problem to the leaders in any church.

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:14-15 Care For Others: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15**

We are to care for others; we are not to respond in revenge.

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:16-28 Worship in Truth: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-28**

### **Application: 5 Questions:**

1. What Witness Do I Leave For Other Believers?
2. Do I Experience The Joy Of The Holy Spirit?
3. Do I Motivate Others To Serve God?
4. Do I Leave A Good Witness For Those That Don't Know Jesus Christ?
5. Do I Look For The Coming Of Jesus Christ?