

“God’s Man”
1 Thessalonians 2:7-12
Father’s Day
June 21, 2026

1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

1 Thessalonians was written by the apostle Paul after his 2nd missionary journey. Paul came to this city and spent three weeks teaching in a synagogue, and the result was that the church was born. Paul’s life was in danger, so the church sent him away. The result was this letter that Paul sent to encourage them.

1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

The context of this passage is not specifically addressing the Family, Mothers, and Fathers. Rather, it is Paul writing to the Church of Thessalonica as an encouragement as a **“Spiritual Parent”**

**1 Thessalonians 2:7 as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children,
11 as a father would his own children,**

Paul is saying that his ministry to the believers of Thessalonica was much like being a parent. We are brothers & sisters in the family of God, the Church.

Thought Of Our Passage: “Both Church And Family Need Tender Loving Care Through Leadership That Is Transparent, Sacrificial, And Blameless.”

Six Characteristics Of “God’s Man”

1. Verse 7 God’s Man Imparts Himself:

1 Thessalonians 2:7 But we proved to be gentle

Context - Paul did not assert his authority, **but proved to be gentle**, not a theory.

This was something that had been demonstrated and practiced by Paul.

gentle – *“to be mild, to be kind,”* is an old word,
“to keep warm, to cherish with tender love, to foster”

as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.

There is no picture more caring than that of a mother nursing her child.
(Apostle Paul The Man)

A nursing Mother imparts her own life to the child. (1 Peter 2:1-3)

Ephesians 6:4 but bring them up -

“to nourish up to maturity, to nurture, to feed in friendliness, gentleness”

Ephesians 5:29 but nourishes and cherishes it,

Galatians 5:22-23

(Great Strength Under Control)

2. Verse 8 God's Man Is Loving:

1 Thessalonians 2:8 Having so fond an affection for you,
A real man, **God's Man**, is not afraid to be tender and loving.

fond affection for you (KJV "affectionately desirous of you")
This Greek word – derived from the language of the nursery,
"a term of endearment,"

Fathers need to love, and it is not only Fathers but also all true Children of God. 1 John 3:10-11, 14, 16

We are to think of our children as Blessings, not Burdens.

we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God
Love for God produces a love for others.

A Father that truly loves imparts the message of love/truth, the Gospel of God, to the children.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

**The Genuine Love Of A Father Is Demonstrated Through Discipline:
(Training)**

Proverbs 13:24; 19:26; 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15; 30:17

Proverbs 12:1 But he who hates reproof is stupid.

3. Verse 8 God's Man Is Transparent:

1 Thessalonians 2:8 Paul talks about preaching the Gospel of God.
"We...imparted to you not only the Gospel of God but also our lives,
because you had become very dear to us."

Fathers, share the Gospel of God's love/truth with children through Love/Discipline, but also through how you Behave!

Children tend to repeat what they see: Exodus 20:4-6

4. Verse 9 God's Man Is Hardworking:

1 Thessalonians 2:9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, Paul was transparent; he was on display!

how **working night and day** so as not to be a burden to any of you,
2 Corinthians 12:14

1 Timothy 5:8

To work is a blessing!

The Curse in Genesis 3 was not one's job but the difficulties of laboring.

we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

All to get the message out!

He did not use them to minister to himself; he gave himself to minister to them!

5. Verse 10 God's Man Is Holy:

1 Thessalonians 2:10 You are witnesses, and so is God,

Paul calls to their minds that the believers and the Lord witnessed Paul's behavior.

how devoutly

"Holy, pious, being pleasing to God, carefully fulfilling the duties God gives to a person"

Holy – *"to be whole, or complete"*

Who does not want to be a whole or complete person?

and uprightly *"righteous in our dealings with our neighbors"*

"And we were blameless.

"our public reputation"

Not that we are sinless, but that we know our sin and are yielding to God.

Accusations will not stick!

Paul's Walk: we behaved toward you believers;

Paul publicly lived out His message:

Fathers realize that God has given us the responsibility of being the Spiritual Leader's in our homes.

Father's Day - God's Word teaches that as men we are to be the spiritual leaders (Like God the Father) of our homes & teach our children about God.

R. Kent Hughes, "Disciplines of A Godly Man"

6. Verses 11-12 God's Man Is Encouraging:

1 Thessalonians 2:11 Paul's Words:

we were exhorting – *'to call to one's side, to correct, to instruct'*

and encouraging – *"to calm and console"*

We all need encouragement.

and imploring – *"be a witness to"*

Paul used his own experience to encourage them in the things of God!

1 Thessalonians 2:12 walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you –

How could a person ever be worthy of God?

worthy – *"to balance, to weigh the same"* We say, "Walk your talk!"

God created man in His own image.

God the Creator has placed within every man the design to create something. What type or quality of thing as a man are we creating?

When God created us, He created us with the idea that we would grow.

1 Corinthians 13:11

It is time for Fathers to become "God's Man"

Application:

1. Being Gentle And Loving Is Not A Sign Of Weakness But Great Strength Under Control.
2. Being Transparent Is Not The Absence Of Difficulties, But It Is The Modeling Of Faith In God In Good And Difficult Times.
3. Working Hard To Serve Others, And Holy Blameless Living Is What The Bible Calls In **1 Thessalonians 2:12 "walking in a manner worthy of the God who calls you"** Balancing What We Know With What We Do.