

**"A Faithful Father"**  
**1 Thessalonians 2:7-12**  
**Father's Day June 20, 2021**

**1 Thessalonians** Was written by Paul after his second missionary journey. Paul came to this city and spent three weeks in a synagogue and the result was a church was born.

**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 2:7,11**

**Paul is saying that his ministry to the believers of Thessalonica was much like being a Parent.**

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

**6 Characteristics Of "A Faithful Father"**

**1. Verse 7 - A Faithful Father Imparts Himself:**

**1 Thessalonians 2:7 But we 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)

**1 Peter 2:1-3**

**Ephesians 6:4 but bring them up**

**but bring them up** - *"to nourish up to maturity, to nurture, to feed in friendliness, gentleness"* This is not limited to the physical sense but spiritually, socially, mentally.

**Ephesians 5:29**

**Galatians 5:22-23**

## **2. Verse 8 - A Faithful Father Is Loving:**

**1 Thessalonians 2:8** 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)** He does it because he loves them, and wants the best for them.

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

**Proverbs 12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, But he who hates reproof is stupid.**

## **3. Verse 8 - A Faithful Father Is Transparent:**

**1 Thessalonians 2:8** Paul talks about preaching the Gospel of God. Then he says, "**We...shared with 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:**

**If a child grows up never seeing his father humble himself before the Lord in prayer, never reading his Bible, and griping about attending worship then the child thinks that this is the way a man is supposed to live his life.**

## Exodus 20:4-6

### 4. Verse 9 - A Faithful Father 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**

**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 - A Faithful Father Is Holy:

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

**Holy** – *"one thing, to be whole, or complete"*

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

**"And we were blameless.** *"our public reputation"*

**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 Leaders in our homes.**

### 6. Verses 11-12 - A Faithful Father Is Encouraging:

**1 Thessalonians 2:11**

**Paul's Words: we were exhorting** – *"to call to ones 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.** The issue is not will a man create, the issue is always - **what type or quality of thing is a man creating.**

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

**1 Corinthians 13:11**

**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 In Order 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.