

# Directed Prayer

## 1 Thessalonians

### Introduction

#### I Paul Thanked Them For Their Ministry: 1 Thess 1:3

- A. Their **work** produced by faith - 2 Thess 1:11
- B. Their labor prompted by **love**
  1. Love for God: Vertical - John 14:21
  2. Love for others: Horizontal - John 21:16
- C. Their **endurance** inspired by hope - Heb 12:1

#### Prayer #1:

1. Take time to thank your prayer partner for their 1) Work produced by faith, 2) Labor prompted by love and 3) Endurance inspired by hope.

#### II Paul Inspired Them To A Life Of Modeling: 1 Thess 1:4-8

- A. Paul reminded them of his **example** - Acts 20:17-21
- B. Paul encouraged them because:
  1. They became **imitators**:
    - a. Of Paul - 1 Cor 4:16; 11:1; Phil 3:17; 4:9
    - b. Of the Lord - Lk 9:23-24
  2. They became a **model** to all the believers in Asia
    - a. Paul imitated God and Christ - Eph 5:1; 1 Cor 11:1
    - b. Silas/Timothy imitated Paul - 1 Tim 4:12; 1 Pt 5:3
    - c. The churches imitated the apostles - 2 Thess 3:9
    - d. The churches became models for other regions

#### Prayer #2:

1. Share briefly with your partner who you are modeling your Christian life after and who, in turn, is modeling their Christian life after yours.
2. Ask God to give you an eager, humble and teachable heart to grow in Christ-likeness and to make you a reliable model of Jesus to those who are looking to you.

#### III Paul Encouraged Them In Their Faith: 1 Thess 2:10-12

- A. He **exhorted** them
- B. He comforted them - Acts 11:23; 16:40; Col 2:2; Heb 10:25
- C. He **urged** them to live lives worthy of God - Eph 4:1; Phil 1:27; Col 1:10

#### Prayer #3:

1. Share with your partner what you need most today: Exhortation, comforting, urging in your walk with God.
2. Respond to your partner's request and then pray for that one specific area of need.

#### IV Paul Comforted Them With The Rapture: 1 Thess 4:13-18

- A. A relational response to the coming of Christ:
  1. **Encourage** one another - 8x in 1 Thess; Heb 10:24
  2. **Build** each other up - Rom 14:19
- B. A personal response to the coming of Christ:
  1. Be **joyful** always - Ps 34:1-3; Phil 4:4
  2. Pray continually - Dan 6:10; Mt 6:6; Eph 6:18
  3. Give **thanks** in all circumstances - Jam 1:2-4; Rom 8:28

#### Prayer #4:

1. If you were to name one thing that has caused you to lose perspective and forfeit a joyful, prayerful and thankful life, what would it be?
2. Read Phil 4:6-7 together and then pray that verse for one another in light of what you just shared.

#### V Closing Prayer

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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