

"Taking the Church Out of the Church"

"Taking the Gospel to Our Community!"

1 Thess. 2:1-12

1. Those sharing Christ stay committed to God and the Gospel in spite of suffering and opposition. 1 Thess. 2:1-2
2. Those sharing Christ rely on God and not fleshly motives in sharing the gospel. 1 Thess. 2:3-6
 - A. Trust God's Word not your talent. 1 Thess. 2:3-4
 - B. Be Authentic. 1 Thess. 2:5
 - C. Don't be a people pleaser. 1 Thess. 2:6a
 - D. Don't be a control freak. 1 Thess. 2:6b
3. Those sharing Christ serve as spiritual parents to those responding to the gospel. 1 Thess. 2:7-12
 - A. Spend time helping people grow in their faith. 1 Thess. 2:7
 - B. Love people from the heart. 1 Thess. 2:8
 - C. Walk the Talk. 1 Thess. 2:10
 - D. Serve others as their spiritual parent. 1 Thess. 2:11-12

Application

1. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. What have you endured related to pain and suffering? Have you had any opposition in your life because of your faith? Please share. How might the gospel message be enhanced coming from someone who has faced suffering or persecution? How are you staying committed to Christ in the face of what you are suffering?
2. Why is it often easier to trust our talent than God's Word? Are you a people pleaser? Why is it important in sharing the gospel to not be a people pleaser? Paul honored the people by not requiring of them their honor and gifts to him as an apostle. How would such a decision help people to be more receptive to the gospel? Control freaks have trouble relaxing and letting God work. Is that you? How can you better yield to the Lord, his work and His word?
3. We are learning that ministry is relationships. I want to challenge you to walk the talk of your faith and seek with the Lord's help to live your faith authentically. I would like you to pray and ask the Lord who is in your life, right now, that you could love and serve to help come to Jesus or grow in Jesus? Would you be willing to sign up for one of our community service projects to show the love of Jesus to others?