

# We Need a Mature Faith. 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

**Review: If we know Christ is coming at any moment, how does that impact our walk today?**

*Chapter 1 – salvation (receiving faith)*

*Chapter 2 – service (ministering in faith)*

*Chapter 3 – sanctification (maturing in faith)*

**Paul's heart?** He knew that the Thessalonian believers would need support for their faith!

## 1. Timothy: The faith builder. Vs 1-2

- Paul couldn't take not knowing how the church was doing! So he sent his brother. Tim was Paul's disciple. He was a faithful man. **2 Timothy 2:2**

**KEY: God can use others just as well as He can use you.**

**BELIEVE:** God can use anyone better than he can use you. Trust God. **1 Cor 1:26-31**

- Tim's work was 2-fold.

**FIRST: To make sure they were established in their faith.**

**SECOND: To make sure that they were comforted in their faith.**

## 2. Our faith must be built up to face trials. Vs 3-4

- Suffering is appointed to you.
- **KEY:** Don't waste the lessons that are to be learned dealing with affliction.
- Tribulation – this is not THE Great Tribulation. ***This is distress, trouble, trials, etc...***
- Our disciples need to learn how to live their saving faith. **Romans 5:1-5**

## 3. We need accountability to \_\_\_\_\_ in faith. Vs 5-8

- **We need it because Luke 8:4-15 shows us our possible faith \_\_\_\_\_.** **Luke 8:4-15**
- The result of our d1 investment should be sanctification! A mature, living faith! Paul's fear. All the work, no fruit! **Galatians 4:11; Philippians 2:16**

**Disciples: Satan's goal is to \_\_\_\_\_ or even \_\_\_\_\_ the Word and work of God from your life.**

**Disciplers: If your disciple isn't \_\_\_\_\_ it? It isn't \_\_\_\_\_.**

## 4. The biblical leader's prayer life – unanswered and answered prayer. Vs 9-10

- Key: Paul had God's heart for God's people. God's Word was his desire. **John 15:7**
- Sometimes God says no. God said no to Paul's prayer. Paul didn't get to go back. But God agreed with Paul's desire in prayer. The Thessalonian church got what they required to be full and mature in their faith.
- **KEY:** Trust God to work in the lives of people. Trust him to use \_\_\_\_\_ to do so.

## 5. God knows how He wants to use us! Vs 11

- Pray for God to direct your way.
- Goal: To grow in \_\_\_\_\_. **Vs 12; Hebrews 13:1**

Love is everything! It's the \_\_\_\_\_ of God over our lives. **Luke 10:27**

It's the way our church is \_\_\_\_\_. **Ephesians 4:11-16**

Our love is proof of our \_\_\_\_\_! **John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 1:22**

- Goal: To grow in \_\_\_\_\_! **Vs 13; Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 8:29**