



into
LIFE
Study guide



1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

For Individuals and Life Groups

May 22, 2016

Introduction:

How does eternity influence how we live our lives today? How does the future impact the present? Join us for a six week study of Paul's first letter to followers of Jesus in the ancient Greek city of Thessalonica, and discover how we can "encourage one another" in the midst of challenging times.

Paul, Silas and Timothy writing from the city of Corinth sent a letter to the church in Thessalonica. Thessalonica, a city of around 200,000 was an important city in the Roman Empire. It was a hub for trade routes and held merchants from many different ethnic backgrounds.

Into the scriptures



Read: 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points...)

What does this passage reveal about Paul's concern for the Thessalonians? What did he discover through sending Timothy?

Why was Timothy sent (v.2)? What is the idea behind the two verbs strengthen and encourage? Look up (1 Peter 5:10; Revelation 3:2; 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4; 2 Thessalonians 5:11; Col 2:2).

What does 3:13 reveal about Paul's desire for the Thessalonians? (See also: Galatians 6:10; Matthew 5:43-48; John 17:20-23)



Into my life



There is an idea presented in this passage that being faithful to Jesus will result in misunderstandings and persecutions in the world? How have you experienced this in your life? What brought encouragement?

Paul commanded the Thessalonians to love (Agape) “each other” and “everyone else”. How should this look in a church that is trying to reach the world? How does this look in your own life?

Paul’s main concern was for his brothers and sisters in Christ. Looking over this past week, what were your big concerns for your brothers and sisters? How might you approach next week differently?

How will I be different this week because of what I’ve just read?



Into the world



Using verses 3:11-13, come up with ways that you can pray for “each other” and “everyone else”. Then spend time praying.



Prayer List



Challenge for the week:

From 1 Thessalonians my challenge this week is to:



More Resources for personal and group use:



<https://bible.org/seriespage/13-1-thessalonians-introduction-outline-and-argument>



A little about Westwood Church...



We believe that God changes lives!

That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



GATHER

Sunday mornings to celebrate and learn about God



GROUPS

Weekly meetings that go deeper in relationships with each other and God



GO

Serving in the church and community to present Jesus to the world