

Church of Christ George Gazette

15th March 2020

The Church in Thessalonica: A GREAT EXAMPLE



When learning something, new it is always great to have examples. I remember trying to learn algebra. My teacher would go over a few equations on the board to help us get the concepts. About the time I thought I was getting it, she would stop and assign class work. I'd open the book and naturally the examples were nothing like what we saw in the book. Her examples seemed so easy compared to what we actually had to do. While this may be true with most things in life, it is not true about the example of the church in Thessalonica. What they went through in order to be Christians was so much more difficult than what we had to do at the beginning of our faith. Yet, Paul praises them for their example.

In **Acts** chapter **seventeen**, Luke gives us the account of the beginning of the church in Thessalonica. As was Paul's practice, he began speaking in the synagogue (**Acts 17:1**). There were many of the Jews, Greeks and leading women that joined Paul and Silas (**Acts 17:4**). Jealous of their popularity, the other Jews incited a mob in town and brought one of the members, Jason, before the town authorities (**Acts 17:5-9**). Paul and Silas had to be let out of the city by basket over the wall (**Acts 17:10**). With that tumultuous beginning of the church, there are very few among us who can say we experienced something similar at our conversion.

Now, in his letter to the church in Thessalonica, Paul praises them. He mentions three things that he brings to God in prayer on their behalf. He specifically sites their work of faith, labor of love and steadfastness of hope (**1 Thess. 1:3**). This sounds very similar to Paul's letter to Corinth, "But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love" (**1 Cor. 13:13**). Even though they were young in the faith, they were still hitting all the high points of what it means to be a Christian. He continues in their praise by saying, "You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit" (**1 Thess. 1:6**). In all that they strove to do for their Lord, they were faced with opposition, but they pressed on.

The perseverance they showed became an example to the church in Macedonia and Achaia: "You became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you... in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you" (**1 Thess. 1:7-9**). Here is a congregation that was a great example to us. Despite the opposition, they continued in their faith and service to God. Here we sit with little to no opposition, and what is said our work of faith, labor of love and steadfastness of hope? May we ever strive to be imitators of Christ.

- Unknown

Memory Verse

2 Cor. 5:17

17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

A preacher was winding up his temperance sermon with great fervor: "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." The congregation cried, "Amen!" "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it in the river." The congregation cried, "Amen!" "And if I had all the whiskey and the rum in the world, I'd take it all and throw it in the river." And the congregation cried, "Amen!" After the sermon the preacher sat down. The deacon stood up: "For our closing hymn," he announced, "let us turn to page 126 and sing, 'We Shall Gather at the River.'" Stolen from Donna Horne.



Please don't forget to support our **BENEVOLENCE MINISTRY!**

Non-perishable food items will be appreciated.

Think of what you need in your house, buy extra and bring to Church

15 March	DUTY ROSTER	22 March
AM		AM
Leroy	SONG LEADER	Leroy
Robert	ANNOUNCEMENTS	Walter
Robert	SCRIPTURE & PRAYER	Walter
Robert & Levson	AM SERVERS	Marclen & Reinhold
Walter	LORD'S SUPPER	Reinhold
Reinhold	PREACHING	Reinhold
Levson	CLOSING PRAYER	Reinhold

Today's Order of Worship

Song 1 (472)	Sing and Be Happy
Song 2 (51)	Break Thou The Bread
Song 3 (292)	I am the Vine
Song 4 (663)	You Never Mentioned Him
Song 5 (596)	Victory in Jesus- 1st Verse. (Softly)

Ethan
Christine
Quintin
Estelle
Rain
Levson (Work)
Lynn vd Walt
Marclen & Family
SA Bible College
George Congregation



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leroy will no longer be away.

Please be aware of the Corona Virus and personal hygiene.

Title & Opening Scripture

"The Way of the Fig Tree: Promise Without Performance" Matthew 21:18-22

Other Scriptures

•Mark 11:20 & 21 •Rom 10:2

Attendance Figures

02 Feb	44
09 Feb	38
16 Feb	44
23 Feb	44
01 Mar	41
08 Mar	44

Please send any relevant information for this Bulletin to reinhold.jahnke@gmail.com

Sunday School Teachers

15 th Mar	Combined
22 nd Mar	Sandy
29 th Mar	Combined

Kiddies Class

15 th Mar	Antoinette
22 nd Mar	Antoinette
29 th Mar	Combined

12 March

