

11 What encouragement does Paul give to the Thessalonians not to give up?

Week beginning 23rd October 2023
Sermon: Sunday 29th October 2023

Study 2: Paul's ministry in Thessalonica.

Readings: 1Thessalonians 2:1 -16

12 In what ways have you found sharing your faith difficult?

Who is someone who has been influential in your Christian life, how have they affected it?

13 What ideas and encouragement from this passage can help you overcome these difficulties?

Read 1Thessalonians 2:1 - 16:

1 Last week you were asked to read Acts 17:1 – 15, how do the initial verses in this chapter match up with the events described in Acts?

2 What attitudes enabled Paul to continue preaching despite opposition (v3 – 6)?

3 In v6 what temptations might have derailed his ministry?

4 Paul says instead he says he and his co-workers were like young children among the Thessalonians. What did Paul mean by this? How was it a counter to the temptations discussed in the last question?

5 Paul now turns the illustration around from being children to caring for children. In what ways was Paul “like a mother caring for her little children”?

6 What motivated Paul as he supported himself, lived a holy life and ministered to the Thessalonians? How would you rank the importance of personal example (for good or ill) in the ministry of Christian leaders?

7 What can we deduce from verse 13 about the nature of Paul’s apostolic authority? What are the implications for us today as we study his writings?

8 What difficulties did the Thessalonians face in sharing their faith with others?

9 How was the experience of the Thessalonians similar to that of the Judean churches?

10 Someone may look at v14 and 15 as anti-Jewish. Why is it not?