



Worship in the Word

Declaring the Whole Counsel of God Verse By Verse

1 Thessalonians 3:1-4 **Encouraging God's People**



I. Encourage God's People by Caring for Them (1a)

Example of Paul's Care

2 Corinthians 2:12-13 – Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened to me by the Lord, 13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I did not find Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I departed for Macedonia.

2 Corinthians 11:28-29 – besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation?

II. Encourage God's People by Sacrificing for Them (1b-2a)

to be left (**καταλείπω** kataleipo) –

Descriptions of Timothy
Brother –

Minister of God (God's servant) and our fellow-laborer –

III. Encourage God's People by Building Them Up (3-4)

1 Thessalonians 4:1 – Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God

1 Thessalonians 4:10 – and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;



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Establish (**στηρίζω** steiridzo) -

Encourage (**παρακαλέω** parakaleo) -

This was Paul's pattern that Timothy had experienced

Acts 14:21-22a - And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith

Acts 15:32 - And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words.

Acts 15:41 - And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

Romans 1:11-12 - For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— 12 that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

Shaken (**σαίνω** saino) -

John 15:18-19 - "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

2 Timothy 2:12 - Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

John 16:33 - These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

1 Thessalonians 3:1-4

Application Questions

1. How often do you think about the other members of the church? How do you show that you care for other believers?
2. What have you given up for the sake of serving another Christian? What role does self-sacrifice play in your Christian walk?
3. What are you doing to build up other believers? What is your primary concern when trying to build up others? (Or maybe secondary)
4. How are you a pattern for others to follow in your ministry to fellow believers? How are you helping to prepare others for inevitable persecution?

Preparation Questions

1 Thessalonians 3:5-10

- 1.** What reason is Paul talking about in verse 5? What could he no longer endure? What did Paul want to know about the Thessalonians? Why did Paul want to know about this according to verse 5?
- 2.** According to verse 6, what eased Paul's concern? What good news did Timothy bring?
- 3.** What comforted Paul according to verse 7? What kept Paul going according to verse 8?
- 4.** What caused Paul to be thankful according to verse 9? How did Paul respond according to verse 10? What was the subject of his prayers?

Verse of the Week

1 Thessalonians 3:2b-3 - to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, that no one should be shaken

Question 22: What is the misery into which all mankind fell through Adam's first sin?

Answer: All mankind, by their fall, lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so made liable to all the miseries of this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.