

Dig Deeper @Home – “Return of the King”

Complement to sermon on December 4, 2016 – “A Bold Declaration”

MEMORIZE – 1st Thessalonians 1:4

For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

READ 1st Thessalonians 2

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. According to v7, how does God desire mothers to act toward their children?
 - a. If you are a mother, how can you intentionally do this more with your children?
 - b. The apostles talked about acting like a mother to the Thessalonians. How can you act like a mother to those around you as you share the Gospel?
4. According to v11, how does God desire fathers to act toward their children? If you are a father, how can you intentionally do this more?
 - a. If you are a father, how can you intentionally do this more with your children?
 - b. The apostles talked about acting like a mother to the Thessalonians. How can you act like a mother to those around you as you share the Gospel?
5. Read v13 again. What does it mean that word of God is at work in you? What is evidence that the word of God is working in your personal life?

Bottom Line - Give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture:

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of 1st Thessalonians 2. Feel free to use one of these or any you might come up with.

Encourage One Another

This is a daily challenge for each day this week. Speak only things that will encourage (this means every situation) realizing that the encouragement we are to give is for Godly living. This means the encouragement may sometimes be partnered with correction. And there we find the beauty and power of encouragement; it is a much better way to offer correction than simply criticizing. But don't take our word for it. Find out yourself.

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing/ King of Heaven - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T3IghOn18VY>

A great song of Advent praising Christ and longing for His return.

Hymn - Christ is Coming! Let Creation - #193 in Mennonite Hymnal

A great hymn reminding us of the urgency of eternity compelling us to proclaim with boldness the saving love and power of Jesus Christ from our sin and despair

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson: Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.