



## SKUPINOVÉ STUDIUM BIBLE - PRVNÍ LIST TESALONICKÝM, LEKCE 2, 1TE 2,1 - 13

OTÁZKY KE STUDIU

**Opakování:** Napiš krátký souhrn 1 Te 1 a řekni, které verše tě nejvíce oslovily.

**1.** V 1. kapitole se Pavel vrací ve vzpomínkách zpět do Tesaloniky a raduje se z toho, co Bůh učinil v jejich vzkvétající církvi. **2. kapitolu** bychom mohli popsat jako „*kliniku křesťanské služby*“ - popisuje pastýře (2,1-13), věrnost (2,14-16) a vyjadřuje své velké přání opět navštívit Tesalonické (2,17-20). Pavlova slova ve druhé kapitole naznačují, že lidé mimo církev si kladli otázky ohledně Pavlových motivů a chování. Odpovídá jim myšlenkou, že dobrý charakter člověka (2,1-6) je základem vnějšího chování a jednání (2,7-13) pravého pastýře. Tři obrazy Pavlovy služby vykrelují, jak jim připomíná svou vlastní pastýřskou péči. V následujících třech obrazech (metaforách) popiš vždy jednou větou každou pasáž.

- a) Věrný služebník (2,1-6):
- b) Milující matka (2,7-8):
- c) Starostlivý otec (2,9-12):

**2.** Z veršů 2,1-6 popiš, jaké osobní útoky byly podle tebe učiněny proti Pavlově charakteru?

**3.** Pavel používá frázi „vy víte“ celkem třikrát v této pasáži (2,1, 2, a 5). Co myslíš, že tím myslel?

- Co specifického můžeš z tohoto oddílu (2,1-6) použít dnes ve svém životě? (Napiš každou aplikaci formou otázky.) Např.:

a) *Jaké odvážné kroky dnes udělám ke sdílení zvěsti evangelia s druhými (2,1-2)?*

- b)
- c)

**4.** Ve verších 7-8, přechází Pavel od obrany svého charakteru k obraně svého způsobu vedení. Jeho základem byla ve v. 2,1-6 věrnost, zatímco ve v. 7-8 to byla jemnost (něha, laskavost). Co tě nejvíce zaujalo na ilustraci použité Pavlem ve v. 7-8; co je z toho pro tebe nejzávažnější?

**5.** Různými metaforami popisuje Pavel tři aspekty své služby „*starostlivého otce*“ (2,9-12). Napiš, co Pavel o každém tomto aspektu řekl.

1. Jeho práce (2,9):
2. Jeho vedení (2,10):
3. Jeho slova (2,11-12):

**6.** Verš 12 je určitým vyvrcholením Pavlova „popisu práce“ v Tesalonice. Co je podle tohoto verše cílem křesťanské služby?

**7.** V 1,6 Pavel chválí tesalonické za to, že „*přijali slovo víry s radostí z Ducha Svatého*“. A nyní (2,13) „*přijali Slovo takové, jaké ve skutečnosti je*“. Je to vedle 1,3; 1,6 a 1,7 další charakteristický znak skutečného obrácení - ve vztahu k Božimu Slovu. Z verše 13 vysvětli, co znamená:

- „*přijali Boží Slovo*“,
- „*přijali ho takové, jaké skutečně je*“,
- „*projevuje svou sílu ve vás*“

**8.** Pokud chceme mít křesťanství podle 1. kap., musíme sloužit podle 2. kapitoly. Z 2,1-13 vyber a napiš co nejvíce rysů zbožné služby (alespoň 15).

**9.** Nauč se zpaměti verš 2,13.



# 1 THESSALONIANS 2-3

## *Response to God's Message*

### **Synopsis**

#### **Setting**

Paul, along with Silas and Timothy, faced fierce opposition in Philippi and then in Thessalonica. He was forced to leave after only a few short months. He was staying with a man named Jason who had become a Christian. One day, jealous Jews went looking for Paul. Paul was not in Jason's house at the time, but the Jews were so angry that they gathered a mob and pulled Jason from his home. They brought him to the city authorities, saying that Paul was "upsetting the whole world." This was a serious charge in a Roman city.

The Romans wanted their empire to be peaceful and the citizens to be obedient to the government. If there was a hint of trouble, the government officials quickly got involved. In this case, they ordered Jason to make Paul leave the city and not cause any more trouble. Paul had to leave suddenly. He wasn't able to spend nearly as much time with the new believers as he would have liked.

This caused a number of problems for Paul as well as the people in Thessalonica. First, the people who followed God's Word were persecuted for their faith. Probably their family, friends, and old religious teachers were angry with them. The government could have been upset with them, too. How would this affect the people? Would they stay faithful to Christ even if they went to jail or their families made them leave their home? Paul was concerned that Satan would use those trials to turn them from their faith. Of course a true believer can't be turned, but Paul was waiting to see who was real and who was not. Second, the people who opposed Paul started to make accusations about his ministry. They might have said to new Christians, "He was just doing it for the money," or "He doesn't really care about you," or even "If Paul really cared about you, why hasn't he come back?" The Christians in Thessalonica might have begun to doubt the sincerity of the messenger and of the message. If they doubted the message then maybe they would go back to their former life.

#### **1 Thessalonians 2**

Chapter two is a continuation from chapter one about the reason Paul was thankful for the faith of the Thessalonians. Paul knew that these believers were sovereignly chosen by God because they "turned to God from idols" (1:9) in the middle of intense persecution (1:6). Paul also rejoiced because of their faith, hope, and love and even more because of their bold proclamation of the Gospel. Here in chapter two, he continues that thought by saying that they believed his message because it was, in fact, the very Word of God. This was not just at the beginning when they first heard but also later when he told them the ways Christians ought to behave. In this chapter, he is thankful to God because of the way they responded to his message. They received Paul's message as coming from God Himself and not from man (2:13). A mark of these Christians is that they believe and act on the Word of God, no matter what others do or think.

#### **1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

Paul accomplished two goals in this section. He defended his ministry against the attacks made by his enemies and provided a great example for the Thessalonians to follow in their evangelism. Paul showed them that they believed and followed messengers who had pure hearts. Paul and Silas had suffered persecution in Philippi. Still, they eagerly shared the Gospel in Thessalonica. They didn't do it for money because they supported themselves by their own work. They didn't do it to become famous because they were always in trouble for their message. Paul said he cared for them like a gentle mother with her baby, and he pleaded with them like a loving father does, to follow God. Furthermore the thing these messengers wanted most was to see people enter God's kingdom and live their lives for Him. And what was their motive? To please God (2:4) and glorify Him. The believers in Thessalonica could be sure that Paul was motivated by care and acted in all tenderness toward them. They could also copy Paul's example in sharing the Gospel with others.

#### **1 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5**



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Because Paul, Silas, and Timothy had poured out their lives and endured such suffering, they rejoiced even more at the conversion of the Thessalonians. Paul was thankful for the fact that the Thessalonians didn't receive their message as just the words of men. He thanked God that they treated his message, as it really was, the very Word of God (2:13). This is the way God brings people to salvation through His Word. The Thessalonians didn't just believe God's Word in the past they continued to believe it in the present, as well. When a person believes God's Word and acts on it, it is a sign that God is doing a work in their life.

Paul couldn't endure the separation from his children in the faith for one more minute. His heart was so torn with care and concern that he sent Timothy to keep encouraging them in their faith. Paul hoped that the people would remember his words to them when he was in Thessalonica. What caused him to be concerned? Two things: 1. God appoints affliction for his children, and 2. Satan tries to steer people away from the faith through it. All believers suffer affliction as one of the means that God uses to make us holy.

When we respond to it in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are witnesses to the unbelieving world. Then people see a Christian in times of deep trouble and sorrow, yet with true joy, they wonder what kind of God he or she serves. Suffering is not an accident that God is unaware of. He is not caught off guard or troubled by it. Jesus suffered and went to the cross because it was God's will. When Paul himself was saved and called to ministry God said, "I will show him how much he must suffer for My name" (Acts 9:16). He told the Christians in Thessalonica that they were going to "be persecuted." God "appointed" it for them. The Thessalonians were destined for the same fate. Would they stay strong in their faith when these troubles came? Would they remember that affliction was a part of God's plan and not an accident? Satan is quick to tempt believers when things get tough. When family and friends abandon a person when he or she becomes a Christian, would that person still be faithful? A true Christian won't abandon the faith. God's work is too strong. But fake "believers" will turn from God in a hurry when persecution comes. Satan tempts them to turn away and they do.

The evidence of true believers is their endurance of persecution. Just like the believers in Judea, these Thessalonians joyfully endured persecution in proclaiming the Gospel and following it. Paul was encouraged because he knew that God saved them in the past and was working in their lives in the present. He also knew that God would preserve them until the coming of Christ. Paul said that they would be his great joy when Christ comes again.

**Application**

Perseverance is remaining faithful to God and doing what He asks from the time a person believes in Christ to the time he or she dies. It means being faithful to God when times are difficult. From God's side, it is a work He does in us. From our side, we must keep being faithful. There are two great examples of perseverance in chapter two. Paul persevered in proclaiming the Gospel to the Thessalonians to please and glorify God. The second example of perseverance is the Thessalonians themselves. They eagerly received God's Word in the past, and they continued to do so in the present. Do you remain faithful to God when times are difficult? Do you love your friends and neighbors enough to share the Gospel with them? Are you eager to hear God's Word and do what it says when it isn't easy?

These are things in which God wants you to persevere.