

Keep on keeping on!

7 studies for a high school youth group on
1Thessalonians



Studies from Dubbo Presbyterian Church



Presbyterian Youth

**1Thessalonians 1
model believers**

BIG GROUP

The power of example

SMALL GROUP

In 1:7 Paul identifies the Thessalonian Christians as a model to other believers. In this opening chapter we catch a glimpse of why.

Read the chapter bit by bit & after each bit stop & discuss & write down all the things we learn about the good things God was doing in these brothers & sisters.



1THESSALONIANS 1:1-3 1THESSALONIANS 1:4-6 1THESSALONIANS 1:7-10



Share with the rest of your group the one thing that **MOST** stands out to **YOU** about the Thessalonian Christians...



Of the things we've discovered about the Thessalonian Christians, discuss together which we in our group **MOST** need to learn at the moment. **Why?**

BIG GROUP

LEARNING FROM EXAMPLE

the Thessalonian Christians...

**1Thessalonians 2
model ministry**

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what are we aiming at?

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READ 1THESSALONIANS 2:1-6A

What things do we learn of the apostles?

The APOSTLES



Discuss what difference these things should make in our everyday lives.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 2:6B-12

What do you learn of how the apostles ministered to the Thessalonians?

The APOSTLES' ministry



Discuss what difference these things should make in our everyday lives.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 2:13

What do you learn of how the Thessalonians responded to the apostles' ministry?

The Thessalonians



Discuss what difference these things should make in our everyday lives.

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the target: GOSPEL ministry & GOSPEL believing

1Thessalonians 2.17-3
model suffering

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suffering

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READ 1THESSALONIANS 2:17-3:5

What's been the experience of Paul & his companions?

What were Paul's concerns for the Thessalonian Christians?



How might the trials & persecutions of other Christians today trouble our faith & us?



READ 1THESSALONIANS 3:6-10

What news did Timothy bring Paul & his companions?

What's to notice about Paul's reaction to that news.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 3:11-13

Jot down in your own words the things Paul prays for the Thessalonian Christians. *(Make sure you know what each one means.)*

Paul's prayer



Do the Thessalonians need Paul to pray such things?

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Standing firm

1Thessalonians 4:1-11
living for Jesus

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keep on keeping on!

small groups



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:3-6

Come up with a list of the apostle's instructions here in your own words.



Discuss together how this list compares to the attitudes of our unsaved friends & our world.

What do you think it means to *avoid* sexual immorality?



Discuss how misusing sex & our sexuality might lead us to wrong our brother & take advantage of them.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:7-8

In those 2 verses there is great warning & great comfort. Can you spot each one?



Discuss the significance of the warning & the comfort for our everyday life.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:9-10

How are we to live for Jesus within the family of believers?



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:11-12

How are we to live for Jesus out in our world?

Come up with some specific ways these verses might work out in your life NEXT week.

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living for Jesus!

1Thessalonians 4:13-18
sleeping in Jesus

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Falling asleep

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READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:13-15

Why might the Thessalonians be tempted to grieve?

What is the “model of dying” that Paul points them to?

What reassurance does Paul give about those who have “fallen asleep”?



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:16-17

How would you describe Jesus’ return?

Why would knowing the style of Jesus’ return give confidence to the Thessalonians?

What great hope do WE share with the Thessalonians?



Discuss your impressions of that great & glorious final day.



READ 1THESSALONIANS 4:18

How is this response different to the “hopeless grief” of v13?



Discuss how these truths should impact our thinking & living.

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Be ENCOURAGED!

Thessalonians 5:1-11
Waiting for Jesus

BIG Group:

Soon..

small Groups



READ 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-4

What issue does Paul avoid talking about? Why?

What will Jesus' return be like?

How do the actions of the 'people' show that they don't understand Jesus' return?

What would it look like for us to make the same mistake?



READ 1 THESS 5:4-11

Paul outlines two alternatives. Note down what he says about each one and help each other appreciate what he means:



Faith', 'Hope' and 'Love' are described as protective equipment for a Battle. Why is that appropriate?



COMPARE 5:11 WITH 4:1.

If the Thessalonians are going so well, why do they need encouragement?



Discuss how we could be good at encouraging each other.

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Encourage One Another

BIG Group:

1Thessalonians 5:12-20
living by grace

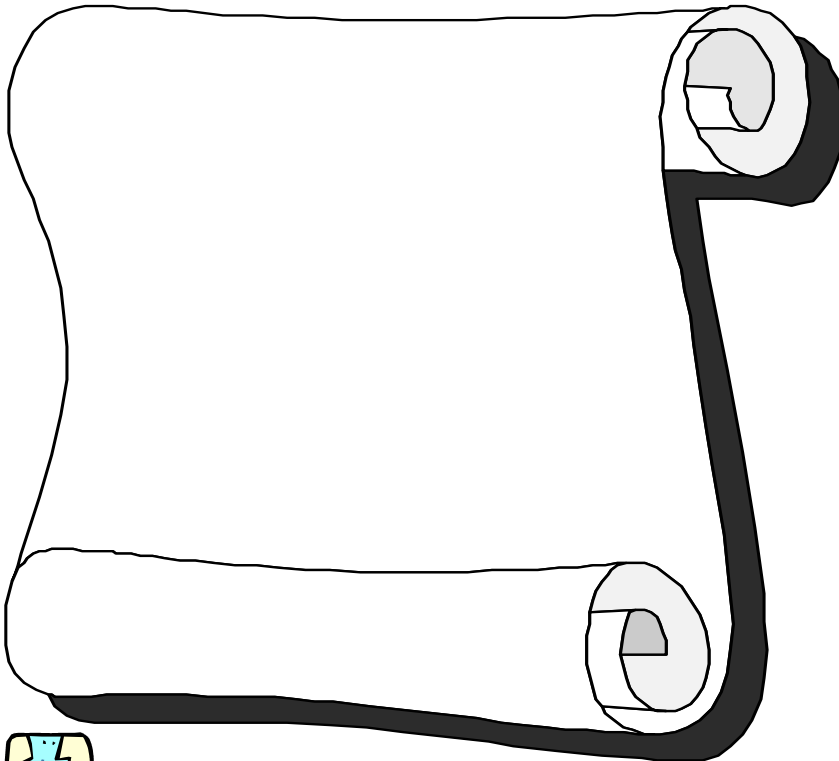
Christian stew

small Groups



READ 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-22

Note down & chat through the ingredients of godly living the apostle mentions.



Discuss among yourselves what you think are the THREE most difficult ingredients. (How come?)



READ 1THESS 5:23-24

In those verses Paul records another of his prayers for the Thessalonian Christians.

How does the prayer link with the recipe for godly living of vv12-22?

What is the encouragement of the prayer?

Sometimes people suggest that godly living involves "letting go & letting God". That is, recognizing that it's not our human efforts that count but only what God does in us.



Discuss what you think of that after reading our passage.

BIG Group:

living by grace