

HBC Pulpit Curriculum
The Measure of Our Maturity Series
Growing in Our Walk with Christ—1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

This material is designed to help give you ideas for discussing the sermon profitably. We trust the lifegroup leaders to choose the questions that will be most helpful to their groups. No one should feel obligated to complete ALL the questions. The reason there is so much material is to offer guidance for those who would like to further study the topic during their devotion times during the week. In our experience, many people need some direction for devotions in order to actually have them.

Introduction

This week's sermon focused on our walk as we follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The passage we studied provokes us to consider a three-fold walk: a walk of relational riches, a walk of radical resolve, and a walk of relentless reward.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:17-20 together.

Intro: In the opening illustration with the man walking through the desert dying of thirst our pastor said "a great investment is needed for a great return." How does this relate to our spiritual walk? How might a spiritual sacrifice "prime the pump" for greater blessings?

I. A Walk of Relational Riches (v. 17)

- a. The Apostle Paul had a deep emotional pain while being separated from the Thessalonian believers. How can we cultivate this heartbeat within our church and in our Lifegroups? Do you think it is possible?
- b. **Read Philippians 2:14-18.** Like Paul are you willing to pour the whole bottle of yourself "down the well" to prime the spiritual pump of deeper relationships? What do you think the greatest hindrances are?

II. A Walk of Radical Resolve (v. 18)

- a. **Read 1 Thessalonians 2:18.** What ministry in your life is worthy of Satanic attack? Our pastor shared that an integrated walk requires a total commitment and that Satan loves mediocrity. What do you think it would take for a stagnant believer to move beyond mediocrity? How might you be able to help such a person?
- b. **Read Matthew 5:27-30.** How does this passage encourage us to walk taking radical action?

III. A Walk of Relentless Reward (vv. 19-20)

- a. **Read 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20.** Have you considered the joy and excitement of celebrating soul quality relationships in the presence of the Lord? If you are going to present someone you disciple to the Lord...how might this spur you on in your discipleship relationship?
- b. Share one way a spiritual relationship has blessed you this week by either giving or receiving spiritual encouragement.

Memory verses:

- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Titus 3:5

Harvest Bible Chapel prayer requests:

Please continue to pray for a Worship Pastor and for additional ministry staff.