

# Modeling the Christian Life

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## A Brief Study of 1 Thessalonians

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# Introduction

- Paul's description of the Christian Life at the church in Thessalonica (1:3-4)
  - *A Work of Faith and a Labor of Love*
  - Having *Patience with Hope in Jesus*
  - *Elected* by God
    - See also 1 Peter 5:13

# A Model Church

- Consider 3 Parts of the Christian Life
  - *Conversion* (1:5-6)
    - Received the Word with Joy
  - *Example* (1:7-9)
    - Repentance and Proclamation
  - *Hope* (1:10)
    - Obedient; Waiting for Jesus

# Model Servants of God

- Paul and the other apostles set examples...
  - *Pure in Motive* (2:1-6)
  - *Genuine in Love* (2:7-12)
  - *Resulting in Faith* (2:13-16)
  - *Joyful of Fruit* (2:17-20)

# A Model Brother is Sent

- Timothy visits the Christians in Thessalonica.
  - *Why does Paul Send him to them? (3:1-6)*
  - *How does Paul find comfort while knowing afflictions, tribulations, and distress? (3:7-8)*
    - See also Romans 5:3-5 and 1 Peter 1:5-7

# The Model Walk

- Paul discusses God's requirements (4:1-12)
  - We Must *Know God's Word*
    - see also Col. 3:5-17 and Eph. 5
  - We Must *Have the Right Attitude*
    - see also Eph. 4:1-3
  - We Must *Be Fruitful* in Every Good Work
    - see also Col. 1:10

# The Model Walk (cont.)

- Walking in light of the “Day of the Lord”
  - What will be the scene when *Christ returns*?
    - 1 Thess. 4:13-18
  - *When* will this happen?
    - 1 Thess. 5:1-2; Matt. 24:36
  - What is *the* role of the *waiting Christian*?
    - 1 Thess. 5:6-11; Matt. 26:41; Eph. 5:15-16

# Conclusion

- Paul ends his letter with urgings, exhortations, and admonitions (5:12-22)
- The instructions found in this letter apply to us today. Let's strive to model the Christian Life, and in doing, live out the Gospel as an example for others.