

1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

Text for Reading & Discussion: 1 Thes. 2:1-16; 1 Tim. 4; 2 Tim. 1:8-14; 3:1-9; 4:1-5

Memory/Meditation Verse:

1 Thes. 2:13 – *“For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.”*

Questions to consider in your study:

1. Highlight the words “we” or “us” in this section. How many times does it occur in these 16 verses? In general, what is Paul trying to accomplish in this passage?

2. Why did Paul say their coming was not in vain? (v. 1)

3. Describe the boldness of Paul and his companions. Why was this crucial?

4. In Mark Mayberry’s workbook, the following table is provided to fill in. Contrasting a worthy and unworthy ministry, fill in the opposites that are associated with each:

A Worthy Ministry	An Unworthy Ministry
Approved by God	
Boldness	
	Deceit
	Error
	Flattery
Gentle	
Preached Gospel	
	Greed
	Impurity
Proved	
Sacrificial Service	
Tender Care	
	Vain

5. Think about some “fraudulent” ministries today. Why are so many people often taken in by them? What should be the nature of our ministry? Are we accomplishing it?

6. What is the difference between vindicating oneself and making excuses for oneself? What is Paul doing here? (vv. 1-12) Why?

7. What is Paul thankful for? (v. 13) What does this say about the Thessalonians? What does it further say about Paul’s ministry?

8. How were the Thessalonian Christians like the Judean Christians?

9. Think about it: Notice the phrase “we thank God without ceasing.” Can we describe any of our thanksgiving this way?