

FINISH STRONG

A Strong Finish Requires a **Focused** Race
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Four marks of a focused faith family

Their conversion is genuine vs. 2-5

- Their faith was exhibited by external deeds
- Their love energized their efforts
- Their hope endured even when under pressure

Their delight is real vs. 6-7

- Their Jesus joy
- Their Holy Spirit joy
- Their infectious joy

Their witness is broad vs. 8

- Their loud outreach activities rang out everywhere

Their reputation is solid vs. 9-10

- No syncretism allowed – ‘turned to God from idols’
- No apathy allowed – ‘to serve a living and true God’
- No distractions allowed – ‘wait for His Son...’

‘The single-mindedness of any faith family is only as intense as the single-mindedness of the families involved and the leaders who lead them!’

Auburn Grace Community Church – August 23, 2020

Life Group Notes – August 23, 2020

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 “We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers; constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ ...”

DISCOVER (Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10)

1. According to Paul’s words, what was the condition of the Thessalonian church? How would you describe the tenor of Paul’s message to them?
2. What are the distinct positive characteristics that Paul remembers about the church?

EXPLORE

1. If you were a member of the Thessalonian church and you heard this epistle read out loud, how would you have received it? What questions do you think you might have had? How would you re-tell it today?
2. What areas in your Christian journey do you think you have modeled well for others to see? Would they agree? Why or why not?

EXPERIENCE

1. Where have you seen the above characteristics at AGCC?
2. Although Paul is writing to a faith family, what is one take-away for you personally? What specifically do you need to know or do?
3. The three qualities of the Thessalonian church are identified in verse 3. As followers of Christ, these should be our attributes as well. Which one of these three do you think you need encouragement in?

PRAY

1. What can you do to grow in this area? Will you give your group members permission to hold you accountable?

Take a moment to pray for each other in this area.