

# The First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the THESSALONIANS

**W**ILL men speak well of your belief,  
and of your faith and labor of love?  
Do you know, without a question, your  
election of God?  
Are you an example to all believers?  
Is your faith towards God known?  
Do you wait for the Son from heaven with  
all patience, and with all hope?

## 1 THESSALONIANS 1

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians, which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus;

grace be to you and peace, from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,

<sup>3</sup>remembering without ceasing your work of faith and your labor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of our Father God.

<sup>4</sup>Knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

<sup>5</sup>For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost with much assurance. You know the type of men that we were among you for your sake.

<sup>6</sup>And you became followers of us and of the Lord,

having received the word in much affliction with the joy of the Holy Ghost,

<sup>7</sup>so that you became examples to those in Macedonia and Achaia who believed.

<sup>8</sup>For you spoke forth the word of the Lord not in Macedonia and Achaia only, but also in every place your faith towards God has gone out,

so there is nothing that we need to say.

<sup>9</sup>For they themselves speak to us of the manner of impact we had on you, and how you turned from idols to God, to serve the true and living God,

<sup>10</sup>and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who has delivered us all from the wrath that is to come.

## CWDS Bible Quotes

- The road of ministry is to be paved with intercessory supplication and thanksgiving for those you minister to.*
- The integration of the body of Christ is complete with recognition of, appreciation and supplication for and celebration of each other.*
- Faith impressed on you expressed to others is a work of faith; living love and giving love because*

*you are so in love, is a labor of love; surrendering everything for hope, without surrendering hope, is the patience of hope.*

- The word of the gospel inspires faith; the power of the gospel excites faith; the Holy Spirit ignites faith; minister faith to bring full assurance and exponential growth.*
- Be the kind of person you want them to know and remember, because they will always remember and know the kind of person you have been around and among them.*
- The test that a wholesome spirit is in you, is to minister affection for the word of God and for God the Word, through personal affliction.*
- If affliction cannot stop the word in you, then the word in you will reach the afflicted of the world and the affected world you are in.*
- You will never be able to fully understand or grasp the multi-generational and multidimensional impact of every seed you sow; keep sowing, it is a spiritual occasion.*
- When your faith in God is grounded, it will grow out and go out; when the word of God in you is solid and you are sound in the word, the solid sound of your word will be heard in every place.*
- Do not write off the idol worshippers, set them right with Christ and they will go right on to set their world right in the path of righteousness.*
- Share with others and declare the word and they will declare you to others and share how much you have done for them.*

## PRAYER POINTS

- My Father, my God, I release grace into the heart of every person who has received Your word today; let it make their lives fruitful. Amen.
- Power to intercede effectively and persistently, rest in the spirit of every minister and believer who shares the word, in the name of Jesus.
- Righteous Father, let love be the motivation for the labor of believers as they minister hope and faith, in the name of Jesus. Amen.
- Holy Spirit, baptize the church with faith; help us to live faith and to minister it. Amen.
- Power to be living examples of Christ, be the portion of every believer today. Amen.

**Y**OU are our joy and our glory,  
But that is not where the story starts.  
We were shamefully entreated but we  
spoke boldly;  
We bared to you our very hearts.  
Not with uncleanness, nor deceitful guile,  
Nor flattering words at any time.  
Not imparting the gospel alone,  
But giving to you our very souls;  
Gently, yes gently, as a mother nurses her  
child.

## 1 THESSALONIANS 2

<sup>1</sup>For you yourselves know, brethren, that our

coming to you was not in vain,  
<sup>2</sup>but even after we had suffered before, we were treated with much spite at Philippi, but, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak the gospel of God to you, in the midst of contention.

<sup>3</sup>For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of guile nor any unclean thing,

<sup>4</sup>but we were approved of God to be entrusted with the gospel.

And even so we speak, pleasing God who tries our hearts, and not as pleasing men.

<sup>5</sup>For neither did we use flattering words at any time, as you know, nor a cloak of covetousness;

God Himself is our witness.

<sup>6</sup>Nor did we seek glory of men, neither from you or from others, when we could have been demanding, forasmuch as we are apostles of Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But we were gentle among you, as a nursing mother cherishes her child.

<sup>8</sup>So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted to you not the gospel of God only, but also even our very lives, because you were dear to us.

<sup>9</sup>For you remember, brethren, our labor and travail,

for we labored both night and day, that we would not be a burden to any of you, and even so we preached the gospel of God to you.

<sup>10</sup>You are witnesses, and God also is, how justly and unblamably we behaved ourselves among you who believed;

<sup>11</sup>and as you know we exhorted you constantly, and comforted and charged everyone, as a father does to his children,

<sup>12</sup>that you walk worthy of God who has called you unto His kingdom and His glory.

<sup>13</sup>For this cause we thank God without ceasing

because, when you heard the word of God, you did not receive it as the word of men but as it is in truth, God's word, which effectually works in you who believes.

<sup>14</sup>For brethren, you became followers of the churches of God, which are in Judea in Christ Jesus.

For you have suffered similar things of your own countrymen,

just as they have suffered of the Jews, <sup>15</sup>who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets and have persecuted us.

They do not please God and are contrary to all men,

<sup>16</sup>forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins, but wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

<sup>17</sup>But, brethren, we having been taken from you for a short time in person, yet not in heart, more abundantly endeavor to see your face with earnest desire.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore we would have come to you,

even I, Paul, more than once, but Satan hindered us.

<sup>19</sup>For what is our hope, our joy and our crown of rejoicing?

Are not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ when He comes again?

<sup>20</sup>For you are our glory and our joy.

### CWDS Bible Quotes

1. Conflict should not contaminate, or contain your commitment to convey the comfort of the word of God; instead, it should compel you to contend for the faith and to counteract and embarrass the devil.
2. The gospel is God's pleasure revealed to man; it should not be compromised or modified to satisfy man's pleasure or pressure at the risk of grieving God.
3. Your personal experience with the gospel is stewardship that engages accountability; it will be examined for faithfulness.
4. The gospel is not our own design and therefore we cannot engage it with selfish desire or share it with devious motives.
5. In Christ the only presumption positions of elevation assume is humility.
6. In the unwritten code of ministry, caring for and nurturing believers is more important to ministers than how much they themselves are cared for and who cares for them.
7. The gospel is entrusted to you by God, but you entrust your life to the gospel so you not only impart the gospel, but your own life, for others.
8. Irrespective of how it is executed, every minister has the same passion; they want nothing to impinge on, impair or invalidate their ministry impact and their personal lifestyle representation.
9. Full-time ministers laboring to supply their own needs restrict the time they have to minister to spiritual needs and restrain the blessings of believers that come through generous giving to supply them.
10. Wisdom separates the channel from the source; it understands the word of God through man is man's voice but God's word.
11. Evaluate, emulate and imitate the righteous values of others; if you can learn from the best you will be patient in your own test.
12. Persecution has one common denominator, Christ; it should also have a common numerator, patience and perseverance.
13. Be tied to those you love but not hooked on them, for Satan is actively working to prevent, hinder and block those you are hooked on, so he may defeat your spirit, your fight and permanently damage you.
14. The fruit of your labor in Christ is cause for you to rejoice before Christ; the perfection of their walk should be the glory and celebration of your heart.

### PRAYER POINTS

- Holy Spirit, minister grace and comfort to the spirit of every minister who ministers through conflict, in the name of Jesus.
- I refuse to bow to the pressure of the world and compromise this gospel I live and represent. Amen.
- Righteous Father, find me faithful in Your house like Abraham. Amen.
- Lord Jesus, help us to properly represent this

gospel You died for and entrusted to us, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

- Holy Father, help our leaders to walk in humility before You. Amen.

**CARING, such caring;**  
**We just have to know your state.**  
**When we could not take it any longer, we sent Timothy your way.**  
**When he told us of your faith and love, it brought us great relief;**  
**For we live if you stand fast, and only if this be.**  
**Caring, such caring; night and day we are praying.**  
**May you abound in love for each other and like us, for all men be caring.**

### 1 THESSALONIANS 3

<sup>1</sup>When we could restrain no longer, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone  
<sup>2</sup>and sent Timothy our brother, minister of God and fellow laborer in the gospel, to establish you there and to comfort you concerning your faith,  
<sup>3</sup>that no man should be moved by these afflictions, for you yourselves know that we were appointed to this.  
<sup>4</sup>When we were with you, we told you beforehand that we would suffer tribulation, even as it came to pass, and you know.  
<sup>5</sup>For this reason, when I could no longer restrain myself, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter has tempted you and our labor be in vain.  
<sup>6</sup>And now when Timothy came back from you to us again,  
 and brought us good reports of your faith and of your love,  
 and that you have had good recollections of us always, desiring greatly to see us as we also to see you,  
<sup>7</sup>therefore brethren, we were comforted, in all our affliction and distresses, by your faith.  
<sup>8</sup>For now we live if you stand fast in the Lord.  
<sup>9</sup>For what thanks can we give for you to God for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sakes before our God,  
<sup>10</sup>praying exceedingly night and day, that we may see your face,  
 and that we might perfect what is lacking in your faith?  
<sup>11</sup>Now, may God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ direct our way, that we may come to you.  
<sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you to increase and to abound in love towards each other, and towards all men as we do towards you,  
<sup>13</sup>so that He may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

### CWDS Bible Quotes

1. *Where the gospel is not just words but heart, then*

*the heart longs and the heart aches, wanting to know the effect the word had on the hearts impacted.*

2. *The apostolic ministry affirms, encourages and establishes believers in the faith so they become faithful to God and to the word delivered to them.*
3. *The affliction of your leaders does not indicate disaffection from God, but disaster and defeat in the camp of the enemy; the enemy is hitting back because he has been hit extremely hard.*
4. *No matter how hard the affliction is, the devil only manages a measure of how hard he has been hit and how much he is affected. He gets you going down; he catches your heels because you crush him real good.*
5. *The greatest support and encouragement you can give to your leader under fire is a good report; that you have immovable steadfastness in faith, you are abounding in love and works, and you remember them in your prayers.*
6. *Ministry is not just a moment; it is a movement involving love inspired mentorship and moving emotional involvement.*
7. *A minister may be limited by physical capabilities and presence, but the God he serves is not; the apostolic and pastoral ministries are carried, conveyed and supported by strong intercession.*
8. *There is a limit to what you can do for believers, but there is no limit to what God can do; breach your limits in prayer by seeking God to establish their hearts perfect in holiness.*
9. *Your abundant love for others is expressed by your pressing desire to see their love abound for each other, for everyone should increase beyond impressive to expressive and abundant.*

### PRAYER POINTS

- Power to follow up in genuine love, rest with every minister and their ministries. Amen.
- Grace for effective oversight of people, be the portion of every minister and church leader. Amen.
- Lord Jesus, empower believers to be devastating to the kingdom of darkness. Amen.
- Most powerful and high God, help hurting ministers to understand that a bruised heel means a crushed head. Amen.
- Let the comfort of ministry success be the portion of every minister in the grips of persecution. Let their doubts be settled in the conflict of the cross. Amen.

**GOD called us to holiness, not to be unclean.**

**Abstain from fornication; among you let it not be heard or seen.**

**Learn to possess your bodies; study to be quiet and to work,**

**Ready in knowing, the Lord shall descend from heaven,**

**With the trump of God and an archangel's shout.**

### 1 THESSALONIANS 4

<sup>1</sup>Furthermore, brethren, we charge and exhort you now, by the Lord Jesus, as we told you before,

how you ought to walk and to please God;  
<sup>2</sup>for you know all the commands that we gave

you by Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that you should abstain from fornication.

<sup>4</sup>That everyone of you should know how to possess your own vessel in sanctification and honor,

<sup>5</sup>not in lustful passion, as the Gentiles do who do not know God.

<sup>6</sup>That no man goes beyond the trust and defraud his brother in any matter, for the Lord is an avenger of such as we have testified and forewarned.

<sup>7</sup>For God has not called us to uncleanness but to holiness.

<sup>8</sup>He who despises, therefore, despises not man, but God, who has given us His Holy Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>But now, concerning brotherly love, you do not need me to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by the love of God, to love each other,

<sup>10</sup>and this you do towards all the brethren who are in Macedonia.

But we entreat you, brethren, that you increase more and more,

<sup>11</sup>and that you study to be quiet and to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.

<sup>12</sup>That you walk in honesty towards those who are outside, and that you have lack of nothing.

<sup>13</sup>I would not have you to be ignorant or to doubt concerning those who are dead in Christ,

and that you do not sorrow as others who are without hope.

<sup>14</sup>For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again,

even so those also who are asleep in Jesus Christ will God bring with Him.

<sup>15</sup>For to you, we say, by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who are asleep.

<sup>16</sup>For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trump of God; and then those who are dead in Christ shall arise first.

<sup>17</sup>And we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; so shall we be forever with the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore comfort one another with these words.

### CWDS Bible Quotes

1. For Christians, abounding in love, faith, works and in the pleasure of the Lord is good; being more abundant in them is better, but to abound more and more in them is best and perfect.
2. Fruitfulness and maximization are languages of the kingdom, for much fruit must lead to more fruit and then to maximum fruit; and even so

abounding should lead to more abounding and to abounding more and more.

3. Sexual immorality possesses you and surrenders possession of your body to demons; we must all possess our bodies by keeping it sanctified to God and by maintaining our personal honor, dignity and self-respect.
4. You are taught to love by the perfection of love Himself, God above; never be satisfied with your own standards of love, strive to increase more and more in love.
5. Hard work brings easy satisfaction; easy work (laziness) brings no satisfaction; you work hard to lead a quiet and peaceful life.
6. You may not win those who are outside the faith by your run but by your walk; they may not listen to your words but they will read your life.
7. Death is sad but it is not sorrow for believers, it is sending off; we sorrow when the hope is dead, not when the body is dead; our hope is alive in Christ who died and rose again.
8. There are those who are alive but dead in life, and those who are dead but alive in Christ.
9. The dead whose hope is alive in Christ shall be the first to rise, then those who are living and truly alive will meet the Lord with them in the skies; and the dead whose hope is not alive, shall rise to join the dead in life for eternal death where death is characterized and epitomized.
10. Faith raises the dead to extend their life; Jesus will raise the dead to end death permanently and engage their life.
11. There is a sound Jesus responds to, the sound of praise; it makes Him rise to inhabit and live in it; there is a sound all those who are alive in Christ will respond to, the trumpet of God; it will make the dead rise and the living defy gravity to take to the skies and meet the Lord in the air.
12. There will be a day when the worship of Christ is not just in faith connecting with the picture, portrait and image of a Person, but the faithful connecting with the Person in living picture, Jesus Himself.

### PRAYER POINTS

- My Father, I pray that every believer will abound in faith, in love and in works; let this be the portrait of their lives. Amen.
- Holy Spirit, let the taste of spiritual success inspire the believers to want more, to press more and to reach more, in the name of Jesus.
- Every demonic altar speaking sexual immorality in the lives of believers, be destroyed now; let the priests die. Power to possess our bodies in the fear of God, be our portion today. Amen.
- Holy Father, help us to walk in love; let the power to love as You love be our good portion today. Amen.
- Holy Spirit, baptize the youth of this nation with the spirit of hard work, organization, focus, and diligence. Amen.

**H**E is coming; yes, He is coming, though we do not know just when. Let us not sleep like others; watching, be sober and again, putting on faith and love, and rejoicing always and forevermore. In everything giving thanks. Abstain from all appearances of evil. He is coming; yes, He is coming, so be

**sanctified by His peace;  
May your spirit, soul and body be found  
blameless when He is seen.**

### 1 THESSALONIANS 5

<sup>1</sup>But of the times and seasons, brethren, you do not need that I write to you,

<sup>2</sup>for you, yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction comes as travail upon a woman with child, and there shall be no escape.

<sup>4</sup>But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this day shall overtake you as a thief comes, unexpectedly.

<sup>5</sup>You are all children of the light and children of the day, we are not of the night nor of darkness.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, let us not sleep as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

<sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep in the night and they get drunk in the night;

<sup>8</sup>but let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of love and faith, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup>For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by Jesus Christ our Lord,

<sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are asleep or awake, we should live together with Him.

<sup>11</sup>So therefore, comfort each other, and edify one another, as you also do now.

<sup>12</sup>And brethren, we beseech you, know those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

<sup>13</sup>and esteem them very highly in love for the sake of their work;

and be at peace among yourselves.

<sup>14</sup>Now, brethren, we exhort you, warn those who are unruly, comfort the feeble minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

<sup>15</sup>See that none render to any man evil for evil, but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves and to all men.

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice evermore

<sup>17</sup>and pray without ceasing.

<sup>18</sup>Give thanks in everything, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

<sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Holy Spirit.

<sup>20</sup>Do not despise prophesying.

<sup>21</sup>Test all things and hold fast to that which is good.

<sup>22</sup>Abstain from all appearance of evil.

<sup>23</sup>May the God of peace completely sanctify you.

I pray to God that your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup>Faithful is He who calls you and He will also do it.

<sup>25</sup>Brethren, pray for us.

<sup>26</sup>Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

<sup>27</sup>I charge you by the Lord, that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren.

<sup>28</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you! Amen.

### CWDS Bible Quotes

- 1. Live as if the Lord's return is today because it just may be; you cannot predict, prevent or contradict the day, so be prepared for it.*
- 2. The only safe place in your world is in God's word; the cry of peace is presumption and the comfort of safety is seduction, they are all lying to you.*
- 3. Suddenly is a cry that scares the unprepared but excites and vindicates the wise; it traumatizes those who are sleeping but energizes those who are alert and awake.*
- 4. The darkness deceives, delays, distances and destroys; those who walk in the light perceive, prepare and remain sober.*
- 5. Salvation covers the head and gives you the covering of the Head, Jesus Christ; without salvation you are headless and brainless; faith and love cover the heart and the vital organs.*
- 6. Dead or alive we will be revived and will take to the skies with our Lord Jesus Christ, who saved us from wrath and judgment.*
- 7. Our road may be hard but our hope is lively, exciting and excellent; speak comfort to every weary soul to give them hope on this sacrificial road.*
- 8. Recognize them by their value to the kingdom and to your King, and workers in ministry will not be ordinary in your sight but distinguished and highly esteemed.*
- 9. It is not their size or stature that matters, but their Kingdom status.*
- 10. If you refuse to follow the rule, the rule will follow you; if you continuously break the rule the rule will break you irreparably; let this be the warning to every person who is unruly.*
- 11. Your strength is not in your advantage over the feeble and weak in heart, but in you admonishing and comforting them.*
- 12. Your pursuit of good is not only for your own good but to be good to others and for the good of everyone.*
- 13. Prayer is not just an event or an act that is momentary or periodic; it underpins, accompanies and is intertwined in and with every event, act and moment of your life.*
- 14. Prayer should be constant, consistent, incessant, insistent and continuous, just as the breath you breathe.*
- 15. Rejoicing does not choose you, you choose to rejoice; the joy you have entered into must enter into you and emanate from you. Rejoice always.*
- 16. You give thanks not because it is finished or it is accomplished, but while you are in it and going through it. Thanksgiving is an important ingredient to guarantee a satisfactory conclusion.*
- 17. The temple will never shine brighter than the fire burning within; the wisdom of human flesh must never overshadow, mute or quench the ways of the Spirit.*
- 18. Put everything to the test; engage everything and every person with your spirit and not with your flesh.*
- 19. A sanctified spirit should lead to sanctified thoughts and sanctified desires, which should lead to sanctified action.*
- 20. When the spirit is in control the soul and flesh are perfected, when the flesh is in control the entire*

*being is corrupted.*

21. *God only begins what He has already finished; what He calls you to, He has already completed in you. What He wants, He wills and what He wills He does.*

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Merciful Father, I ask for divine agitation to the spirits of all believers to keep them alert, watchful and always ready for the Lord's return. Amen.

- Jesus my Lord, I hide myself in You; I find shelter in the potent power of Your word. Amen.
- Holy Spirit, help me to live prepared; suddenly shall be my anticipation not my anxiety, in the name of Jesus.
- I am a child of the light; I walk in the light and not in darkness. Amen.
- Righteous and merciful Father, let the spirit of conviction fall upon unbelievers; let them run to the cross in surrender.

According to Hippolytus, Phillip preached and was executed in what is known today as modern Turkey. He records that Phillip preached in Phrygia, and was crucified in Hierpolis with his head downwards in the time of Domitian, and was buried there.

This feature continues at the end of the next chapter.