

Questions for Reflection and Discussion
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Making a Difference

Background

Read Acts 17:1-9. In a few words, describe how the church in Thessalonica was planted.

Digging In

- Read 1 Thes 1:1-3.** Write a brief explanation of these 3 phrases found in v. 3. (Check several translations for ideas.)
(a) *your work produced by faith*
(b) *your labor prompted by love*
(c) *your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- Read vss. 4-6.** How did Paul know that God had sovereignly chosen the Thessalonians?
- What evidence does Paul give to show that the conversion of the Thessalonians was genuine?
- How did they become *imitators of us and of the Lord?* (v. 6)
- Read vss. 7-10.** In what ways did the Thessalonians become a model to the believers in Macedonia and Achaia?
- What additional confirmation does Paul give in vv. 9-10 that the conversion of the Thessalonians was genuine?



Getting Personal

- To what extent do the motives in v. 3 shape your own Christian life and ministry? How would you like to grow in these areas?
- Paul gives a number of indicators that the Thessalonians' conversion was real. Read through the chapter again and note the evidences that apply to your own life experience.
- The Lord's message rang out from you* (v. 8). What a beautiful picture of the spread of the gospel. Take a moment to pray that the message of the gospel would ring out from you to those around you. Ask God to help you build a friendship with a non-Christian friend. And then – as God guides – step out in faith and obedience.

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