

Be _____.

1. In prayer to God. **1 Thessalonians 2:13**

- How do we pray?
- How Paul prayed: 1 Thess 3:9-10; Eph 1:17-23; 3:14-21; 6:18-20; 1 Tim 2:1-8; Col 1:3-17; etc...
- Recognize that God is good to us!
- **Remember:** Paul is writing this to a PERSECUTED people. Vs 2; 1:6
Yet Paul models unceasing thanks to God to his disciples.

2. For _____ disciples. **1 Thessalonians 2:13**

- **What are the marks of a disciple of Christ?**
 - They _____ the Word of God as _____!
 - Do you BELIEVE that it EFFECTUALLY works IN YOU as you believe ON IT?
Believing ON the Word of God = It changes you.
The Word of God is seed. **Luke 8:11**
When it takes root in your heart, it bears fruit! It effectually works in you. **Luke 8:12-15**
How the Word works: it is based on belief. **Matthew 9:29; Hebrews 11:6**

3. For _____ disciples. **1 Thessalonians 2:14**

- What are the marks of a faithful disciple?
KEY: The Thessalonian church was a _____ of the Judean churches!
FIRST: Faithful disciples are followers! 2 Tim 2:2
- Growing leaders – beware! Everything reproduces after its own kind!
1 Corinthians 11:1; Philipians 3:17

SECOND: Faithful disciples _____ in trials. 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16
- The Judean churches that they followed suffered greatly. They did to. **Acts 17:5**
Compare: **2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12**
- Remember that Matt 4 follows Matt 3.
There is a cost / a price to pay to follow as a disciple of Christ. Luke 14:26-32
- VS 15-16 God's messengers have a hard time. **Acts 7:52**
- If Jesus suffered, what about us? **John 15:20**

LEADERS: Be _____ it.

1. In desire for _____. **1 Thessalonians 2:17-18**

- Leaders desire fellowship with their disciples. (vs 8!)
Why did Paul? 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5, 10

We want to _____ the faith of those that God gives us. Why? (vs 8) **1 Peter 1:22**
- Vs 18: Paul was hindered by Satan. He didn't let that stop his investment in the Thessalonian church.

2. In recognition of the _____. **1 Thessalonians 2:19-20**

We invest what God has done in us and given to us – INTO the lives of others!