

CALVARY CHAPEL SOUTH BAY
MEN ^{OF} THE WORD
MEN'S MINISTRY
2021-2022

1 Thessalonians - "The Coming of the Lord"

Session 5

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

"The Effective Word of God"

Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God; the Word from God? Or do you think of it as merely the word of men? If you truly believe the former, and have taken it to yourself ("received" it) as the Word of God indeed, then it will be evident in a couple of ways. There will be ongoing changes in you; proof of the Spirit "effectively working" the Word in and through your life; and there will be persecution from others who are in opposition to the work of the Word of God in this world. As you study this passage, ask yourself if your life shows evidence of God's effective work in and through your life.

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:13

What makes Paul thank God for the church at Thessalonica "without ceasing"?
What made him so sure about that which made him thankful?

Scripture: James 1:21-24

What will be true of those who treat the Word as from God, and allow it to effectively work in their lives?

Scripture: Philippians 2:12-13

What does Paul say we should be doing that will help God's work "in" us to be "effective"?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:14-15

What was the evidence of the Thessalonians attitude toward the Word and its effective work in them in their world? What good company were they in by this?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:15

What does Paul say about those who oppose the ones who believe, proclaim, and live out the Word of God?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:16

What is one of the things those who oppose the work of the Word in the world do to try to hinder it? What example can you give in our culture where this is done?

Scripture: John 15:18-25

What can we expect from the world when we “keep” (act upon, live out) God’s Word? What does v.22 say about why the world will do so? What does v.22 say about what the Word does that is one of the reasons many oppose it?

Scripture: Mark 8:38

Food for thought: What does Jesus say about those who, contrary to those in this week’s passage, are “ashamed” of His Words?

Group Discussion:

What actions and attitudes towards the Bible, that are a part of your everyday life, give evidence that you do indeed believe it to be the Word of God? If you aren't seeing the "effective work" of the Word in your life as revealed in this week's study, what changes must you make to turn that around? Where do you need to grow with respects to your commitment to the Word of God?

Hiding God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

"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."

1 Thessalonians 2:13