

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

1 Thessalonians - "The Coming of the Lord"

Session 6

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

"Hindered or helpful"

In the previous passage, we saw there was opposition when God's church looks to live by faith and allow God to effectively work in and through them to share God's Word. This week, we see that it isn't only unbelieving people who will seek to oppose the work of God in and through our lives. When Paul looked to come to the church at Thessalonica and encourage them in the work God was doing, and to fellowship in a spirit of the "hope" and "joy" that brings, Satan "hindered" him. The enemy will always look to hinder and distract us from bearing fruit, and from enjoying the hope and the joy we have in Christ. Let this week's passage be a wake up call to remind you that you have an enemy working against all that God has for you in this life, and let it spur you on to allow God to do "above all that you can ask or think" according to His mighty power! Will you allow God to help you overcome the hindrances of the enemy and make you a help to the body of Christ?

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: 1 John 1:3-4

What does verse 3 reveal about the importance of the fellowship we have as believers? What is the fruit that comes when this fellowship is all it is meant to be, according to verse 4? (*Don't let Satan rob you of it!!!*)

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:17

What is Paul careful to get across to them, since he was unable to actually be with them for a time? If someone made that much effort to let you know they cared, what would it mean to you?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:18

What kept Paul from coming to the Thessalonica church at that time?

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-12

What does Paul teach us about the nature of the battle we face in this life (v.12)? Why is that important to know as it pertains to our relationships with each other? What does v.10 and 11 encourage us to do in the face of such critical truths? What can help us overcome in this battle?

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

What do these verses tell us are the things Satan is always seeking to hinder us from having or enjoying?

Group Discussion:

So, as you reflect on your own life, ask yourself if you are more of a hindrance or a help in the life of others. Do you share Paul's passionate desire to see others grow in their walk with the Lord? Are you looking to make the same kind of effort Paul did to let someone else know you care, and are hoping the best for them? Do you recognize the hindrances of the enemy in your own life; or have you allowed him to distract you from the work God wants to do in and through your life, for the good of His body and for the glory of His kingdom?!

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

“For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.”

Romans 1:11-12