

Sermon Discussion Questions for September 22, 2019

Transformed Through Trials – I Thessalonians 3:1-8

1. What key point stood out to you in the message?
 2. The Thessalonian church suffered much affliction and faced many trials. The Jews in the area wanted to have nothing to do with Christianity and persecuted Paul and Silas and the church. Who did Paul send to the Thessalonian church? What was Timothy supposed to do? Were these trials random or circumstantial?
 3. How does Paul describe these trials at the end of verse 3? Who appoints trials and for what end?
 4. What trials do you face as a follower of Christ? Does knowing that trials are expected for a Christian give you comfort or fear? How is faith challenged through trials? How is it strengthened?
 5. In verses 6-8 (and in the rest of the chapter), Paul provides some positive outcomes for experiencing trials. What are they? (growing in faith and love, joy and encouragement, promise of eternal life thru faith in Christ).
 6. Trials also come for unbelievers. What is the different approach in dealing with trials for the unbeliever? Can we use trials to point people to Jesus? Give examples in your own life of how a trial helped you grow in your faith and love for Jesus.
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- Remember to pray for each other's unique challenges and commit to pray throughout the week for one another.
 - Love others as Christ loves you.
 - Fill your mind and heart with the gospel of Christ Jesus.
 - Live out the gospel of Christ which calls for radical Love for God and Love for others.