

PAUL TO A "T"
1 THESSALONIANS 3

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on New International Version (NIV) 1984 edition.

Lesson 4 • 1 Thessalonians 3 • October 12, 2011

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20 has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

2. According to **V2-3**, why was Timothy sent to the Thessalonians?
3. What do you think are the trials and persecutions that Paul is referring to in **V3-4**?
4. How might advance notice of persecution affect the way you endure?
5. During their trials, Timothy was sent to strengthen and encourage the Thessalonians in their faith.
 - a) What trial are you currently facing (or have recently faced)?
 - b) How has God strengthened and encouraged you amid your trial (perhaps through a person, memory, verse, or song)?

6. Who is “the tempter” in **V5**, and what temptations might Paul have been concerned about?

7. In what area of your life are you tempted to waver or compromise (especially as a result of a trial or persecution)?

8. What are the specifics of Timothy’s report about the Thessalonians in **V6-8**?

SECTION II: Read 1 Thessalonians 3:6-9

9. How do Paul and Silas respond to this news in **V7-9**?

10. What do these responses reveal about the relationship between the Thessalonians and Paul, Silas and Timothy?

11. Describe how you have been encouraged (despite your own distress), as you’ve observed someone under your spiritual care “standing firm in the Lord.”

SECTION III: Read 1 Thessalonians 3:10-13

12. a) Despite the good news from Timothy about the Thessalonians’ faith, what does **V10** reveal?

12. b) What timeless truth can you draw from this?

13. In your own words, what else did the writers desire for the Thessalonians in:

V11 _____

V12 _____

V13 _____

14. How does **V12** encourage you in a relationship with someone who is not easy to love?

15. Based on **V13**, write a prayer request for yourself and/or others.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What do the following verses say about "standing firm"?

1 Corinthians 16:13 _____

Galatians 5:1 _____

Philippians 1:27 _____

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 _____

2. Re-read **V8** while also recalling the above verses. What do you learn about spiritual mentoring from Paul?

