#### Lesson 1

#### 1 Thessalonians Overview

Paul's loving and fatherly heart towards this young church is exemplary. We will see so many practical applications from these books for our own lives and circumstances. Note how many times Paul call these young believers to FAITHFULLY ENDURE as they await the coming of our Lord Jesus.

And may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you; so that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

The goal of this lesson is to teach you observation and the "big picture" of the letter. This will assist you as you excavate, interpret, and apply the text in the up-coming weeks. At the end of the week there are "Dig Deeper" questions. You can use them at the end of your daily study, as an extra study day, or save them for the month of December when we break. Ask the Lord to assist you and to show you His glory as He helps you through this study.

### Day 1: Read 1 Thessalonians

- 1. 1 Thessalonians Background Information
  - a. Who wrote the book?
  - b. To whom was the book written?
  - c. In what country would you find Thessalonica?

	d. Where was the book written? See Acts 18:1,5; 1 Thess. 3:6
	e. What was the Author's purpose in writing the book?
2.	During which of Paul's missionary journeys did he visit Thessalonica? (See Acts 16-17).
3.	Read Acts 15:22–17:15 a. How do Paul, Silas, and Timothy begin their ministry together?
	b. Briefly describe the circumstances that brought them to Thessalonica.
	c. How were the men received in Thessalonica?
4.	Who did Paul send back to check on the young Thessalonian church?
	a. Why did Paul send him? (1 Thess. 3:1-2, 5)
5.	What circumstances drove out Paul, Silas, and Timothy from Thessalonica? See Acts 17:5-10

### Day 2: Chapter Observations & Read I Thessalonians 1

Day 2. Chapter Observations & Read I Thessalomans I		
1.	Summarize the chapter in your own words.	
2.	What are the major themes of this chapter?	
3.	What questions (if any) do you have from your reading of this chapter?	
4.	Is there anything that really stuck out to you in this chapter?	
Day 3: Chapter Observations & Read I Thessalonians 2 & 3		
1.	Summarize the chapters in your own words.	
2.	What are the major themes of these chapters?	
3.	What questions (if any) do you have from your reading of these chapters?	

4. Is there anything that really stuck out to you in these chapters?		
Day 4: Chapter Observations & Read I Thessalonians 4		
1. Summarize the chapter in your own words.		
2. What are the major themes of this chapter?		
3. What questions (if any) do you have from your reading of this chapter?		
4. Is there anything that really stuck out to you in this chapter?		
Day 5: Chapter Observations & Read I Thessalonians 5		
1. Summarize the chapter in your own words.		
2. What are the major themes of this chapter?		
3. What questions (if any) do you have from your reading of this chapter?		

4. Is there anything that really stuck out to you in this chapter

### **Dig Deeper**

- 1. What things stand out to you about Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy:
  - a. Paul: Acts 9:1, 15, 21; 1 Corinthians 1:1; Romans 1:1.
  - b. Silvanus: Acts 15:22, 32, 40; 18:5; 2 Corinthians 1:19; 2 Thessalonians 1:2.
  - c. Timothy: Acts 16:1; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15
- 2. What do you hope to glean from the study this year?
  - a. As you read through 1 Thessalonians, make a list of any verses that are difficult for you to understand. (Keep this list, it will be important for the spring!)
- 3. If you were to write a letter to GraceLife, what would you like to communicate to those you love?
- 4. What lessons about ministry do you learn from Paul's journey that you can apply to your own life?