

Women of Grace

Lesson 7

A Pastor's Heart

1 Thessalonians 2:19-3:5

Day 1: A Pastor's Joy (2:19-20)

1. What is Paul's threefold question to the Thessalonians?
 - a. What is his answer to this question?

2. We think of a crown as something worn to signify authority, but in Paul's context a crown was given to signify the victor of a contest. How does this change your understanding of verse 19?

3. What was Paul going to boast about?

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4. What should we be boast about?
5. What is Paul referencing when he speaks of the “Lord Jesus at His coming”?
6. How did Paul describe the Thessalonians in verse 20? Why so you think he described them this way?
7. Are you a glory and joy to your leaders? What areas do you see in your life that are a joy to others (be sure to praise God for this work in your life)? Are there areas that your leaders can not rejoice in? What will you do about these areas?

Day 2: A Pastor’s Sacrifice (3:1)

1. What is the “therefore” there for? What does this point back to?

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Day 3: A Pastor's Focus (v. 2)

1. What is Paul's commendation of Timothy? Why would Paul choose Timothy?
2. Identify and define two things Paul sent Timothy to do. Why would the church need this from Timothy?
3. In regards to encouragement, what is Paul's emphasis in verse 2?
4. Paul had confidence in sending Timothy because he was a brother and a fellow worker in the gospel of Christ. What does this teach us about the dangers of the current ecumenical movement?
5. What are specific ways we can strengthen and encourage others as to their faith? Is there someone you can strengthen and encourage? Write out their names, pray, and act.

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3. The enemy's design is to hinder good fruit from growing and affect the preaching of the gospel. Reading Mathew 13:1-8 and 18-23, what do the seeds represent?
 - a. What is the meaning of the seeds along the path?
 - b. What is the meaning of the seeds on rocky ground?
 - c. What is the meaning of the seeds among the thorns?
 - d. What is the meaning of the seeds on good soil?

4. Define *vain*. What does Paul mean by the statement, "our labor would be in vain"?

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e. Ephesians 5:15-17

f. Hebrews 12:15

g. James 1:12-18

2. What obligations do believers have towards those they lead to Christ? Is it enough to have them pray a prayer, or even to get them to come to church?

3. Read Hebrews 3:12-13. Does this passage help you better understand why Timothy was sent to encourage them?

4. Pray often for your leaders using 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

