#### Lesson 8

#### A Pastor's Heart - Part 2

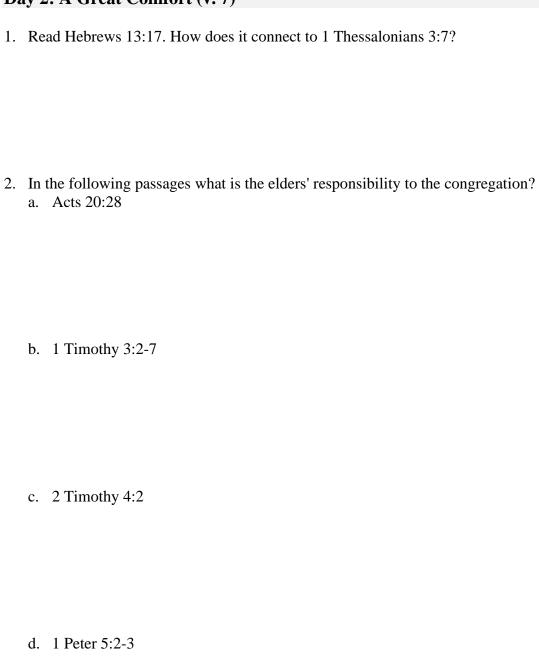
#### 1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

#### Day 1: A Grateful Heart (v. 6)

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1.	What is Paul contrasting with the statement "but now"?			
2.	Were Paul's concerns answered in this verse? Why or why not?			
3.	Timothy's report to Paul was "good news". This phrase is derived from the same root as the word evangelism. How does this better help you understand Paul's joy?			
4.	What four things were contained in that good news?			

5.	How was the Thessalonians' love demonstrated?		
	a. How can we as believers demonstrate our love for the Lord?		
	b. For other believers?		
	c. For our shepherds?		
6.	The authenticity of Paul's ministry among the Thessalonians was questioned. Why would Timothy's report have encouraged Paul?		

#### Day 2: A Great Comfort (v. 7)



3. In the following verses what is the responsibility of the congregation to the elders? a. 1 Timothy 5:17 b. 1 Timothy 5:19 c. Hebrews 13:7 d. Hebrews 13:17 4. How do you view those whom God has placed in authority over you? Are you a comfort and joy to them? a. How do you think your obedience and disobedience to the Lord affects them and the church?

5. How would this report from Timothy have helped Paul in his adversity? Day 3: The Great Stand (v. 8) 1. What effect would the Thessalonians have on Paul and the men if they were standing firm? 2. What do the following verses tell us a about how to "stand firm in the Lord"? a. 1 Corinthians 16:13 b. Galatians 5:1 c. Ephesians 6:11-14

d. Philippians 1:27 e. 2 Thessalonians 2:15 3. How did the Thessalonians show that they were standing firm? 4. Timothy had been sent to the Thessalonians to encourage them. Here we see how they in turn have been an encouragement to Paul. Find two other verses that speak of the importance of encouragement among believers. 5. How does the success and obedience of others encourage you?

a. Write out a time someone's faith has encouraged you during a time of difficulty. Be sure to thank the Lord for His shepherding care of you through that time. 6. Is the encouragement of other believers a common practice for you? If not, what steps can you take to make it a regular habit? Day 4: The Great Rejoicing (v. 9) 1. Who does Paul direct his gratitude to for the good news of the Thessalonians? 2. Even though Paul had laboured among the Thessalonians, who was causing the growth? See 1 Corinthians 3:6-7. 3. Are there times when you take credit for the work God is doing through you instead of giving Him thanks (this could be in your job, your marriage, your mothering, or your service in the church)?

a. What are some indicators you desire the credit for your work? b. What might be the root of a desire to claim credit? 4. How often do you thank the Lord for the faithfulness of others? 5. From your knowledge of Scripture, which churches brought Paul joy? What churches didn't? Day 5: The Great Prayer (v. 10) 1. What are the two elements of Paul's prayer life?

a. There was an extreme frequency in Paul's prayers. Does this describe your prayer life? What steps can you take to excel still more? 2. What are the two things that Paul desires of the Thessalonians? a. Do these two desires match the desires you have for God's people? b. There will likely be relationships where only media contact is possible, but are there relationships you have substituted face-to-face contact with social media or other avenues? Is this constant with Paul's heart? 3. How important is prayer in the life of a believer? 4. What do each of these verses teach us about prayer? a. Matthew 6:7

b. Luke 18:1

c. John 15:7

d. Romans 8:26

e. Philippians 4:6

f. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

g. Hebrews 4:16

5. What did Paul mean by "and supply what is lacking in your faith"? What was lacking in their faith? See Romans 1:11, Ephesians 4:11-13, Colossians 1:28. 6. In chapters 4 & 5, Paul writes to them about where their faith is lacking. What would your leaders say is lacking in your faith? What will you do to change this? **Dig Deeper** 1. Pray for 5 mins a day about your local church standing firm, and being a joy to both our leaders and each other. 2. Think of one or two people each day this week that you can thank the Lord for their obedience. 3. Write a note of encouragement to another believer.

4. A Shepherd is to model their care after the Lord Jesus. Look up the following verses and note how Jesus cares for us: a. John 10: 2-5 b. John 10:11-16, 27-28 c. John 11:33-44 d. John 13:3-17 e. John 17:6-26

f. Matthew 11:25-30

g. Matthew	16:18-19
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5. Are you praying for those you can't be face-to-face with (i.e., our missionaries)? Write a list and pray for them.

6. Did Paul ever have his prayer answered in seeing the Thessalonians again?

7. Our work for the kingdom is never done. There is always a need for intercession, building up, correcting, counseling, discipling, and guarding the truth. Do you act as if the work is done both in your heart and in others? What will you do to change this? How can Paul and your leaders be an encouragement and example to you?