

Three Faith Builders

By Jeff Bedwell on March 22, 2021

TODAY'S READING: 1 Thessalonians 3

Paul, as a spiritual father, was concerned about the believers in Thessalonica and their walk with the Lord. Following Christ in this world will not always be easy. There will be many challenges and afflictions (vs. 3). Paul is writing to encourage them in their faith.

Paul does three things to encourage and strengthen them that we all need to have as a part of our lives as we walk together in the Lord. Notice that Paul:

- Sent them a person, Timothy.
- Wrote them this letter expressing his love and encouragement.
- Prayed for them.

This reminds us that we need these three elements in our lives as well. We need fellow believers to walk with us that we might strengthen and encourage one another. The enemy desires to isolate us, but we were made for community with God and other believers.

We need truth spoken into our lives. In Paul's letter he gives them encouragement but also gives them instruction and exhortation. We need God's truth that comes to us through God's Word - The Bible, and through God's people - The Church.

We need people praying for us and we need to be praying with and for others. Paul prayed for an increase and abounding in their faith, love, unity and holiness (vv. 11-13).

Today, do a quick spiritual check-up. Are these three elements actively at work in your life right now? Who are you sharing life with to encourage and strengthen one another in the Lord? How are you opening your life to God's truth through His Word and through His people? Who is praying for you? Who are you praying for? Are your prayers the same type of prayers that Paul prayed for the Thessalonians?

PRAYER: "Father, thank You for those individuals that You have used in my life to grow and strengthen my faith, and bless my life. Help me to be that kind of person in the lives of others. Who do You want to encourage through me today? Show me one specific action I can take today to strengthen and encourage another follower of Jesus Christ."

TOMORROW'S READING: 1 Thessalonians 4

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