A Church to Be Thankful for 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 November 24, 2024

6. Why should we be thankful to God for the gift of our church?

Discussion Questions - These questions are a guide, not a script.
1. What does it mean for a church to be "in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 1)? See also John 17:20-21. How does this reality bring unity to a church? How does realizing who we are both in the Father and the Son bring us grace and peace (v. 1)?
2. Why was Paul so thankful to God for the Thessalonian Christians (vv. 2-3)? How is the genuineness of faith, love, and hope shown by the three evidences that Paul lists in v. 3?
3. Because of the abundant fruit in their lives, what did Paul know about the Thessalonians in v. 4? How should the truths of v. 4 change how we think about and treat other believers in Christ?
4. How did the gospel come to the Thessalonians (v. 5)? How did the lives of Paul and his companions back up the truth of the message they preached (v. 5)? How do these both combine to make a powerful apologetic for the truthfulness of the gospel message?
5. Do you have people in your life who encourage you like Paul encouraged the Thessalonians? How can you be an encourager to others like Paul was?