The Letters to the Thessalonians



Faith, Love, and Perseverance

November 15th

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sermon Outline

Key Verse

(6) God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you (7) and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-7 NIV

Key Points

1. Faith comes from being saturated in God's word which will in turn produce greater faith.
2. We are commanded to love each other as Christ has loved us.
3. Trials are very unpleasant, but they will mature us.

Opening Thought

We live worthy of His call when we are glorified in Him, when He alone is our source of glory and exaltation, and who we are in Jesus is more important than who we are in anything else.

Ice Breakers

- During the Victorian period, it was normal to photograph loved ones after they died. People would dress their newly-deceased relatives in their best clothing and then put them in lifelike poses and photograph them. Is this an odd practice? What kind of pose or activity would you want someone to take a picture of you doing?

Dig Deeper

- Read James 1:2-4 Does this help you to understand the circumstances that you are currently going through?
- What does it mean to be part of a church? What does it mean to be a member of a local church?
- How can we grow in faith together as a church?
- Since we are commanded to love each other, how can we show humility to people with differing views? How can we extend forgiveness to those who perhaps provoke us especially others in the church?
- Why should we persevere in trials? Why not just give up and quit and take our ball home with us?
- Read 2 Thess 1:9 what does this tell us about eternity?
- What does it mean in verse 6 when it says "God is just?"
- Read Acts 17:1-9 What stands out to you?

Closing

I leave you with a reflection of words from the prince of preachers pertaining to how we can grow in faith. "Do all you can and then do a little more; and when you can do that, then do a little more than you can. Always have something in hand that is greater than your present capacity. Grow up to it, and when you have grown up to it, grow more."