

CHAPTER 31.2  
*Faith Life*

“LIVING FAITH”  
1 Thessalonians 1  
September 24, 2017

Trinitarian theology naturally and necessarily frames everything Paul writes.

Faith shows up.

I. Turned to God. (9)

Past

A. God's work. (4)

1. Loved

2. Chosen

3. Power of the Holy Spirit makes the word of the gospel efficacious. (5)

B. Radical change happens when we are saved. (9)

II. Serve the Living and True God (9)

Present

A. Work of Faith (3)

B. Labor of Love (3)

III. Hope (3, 10) “wait” with expectation

Future

**How does this apply to me?**

## **NEXT WEEK**

“LIVING GENEROUSLY”  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-20

### **Passage Overview:**

In this chapter, Paul reflects on his time with the Thessalonians. Having been beaten, imprisoned, and humiliated in Philippi, he and his co-workers still arrived in Thessalonica with a boldness to declare the gospel that grew out of a desire to please God. They didn't change the gospel to make it more palatable to their audience. They spoke truth alone because their desire was to please God alone.

This passion for the gospel caused them to live their lives focused on the glory of God and the good of others. They would rather wear themselves out than compromise the clarity of the gospel message. As a result, they worked tirelessly to provide for their own needs rather than to ask for help from those they had come to serve. They were not seeking their own benefit as they shared the gospel. They were seeking to lead people to a saving faith in Jesus and then to teach them to follow Jesus.

This missionary team wanted to please God, at any cost. They gave the gospel away freely. They gave themselves away willingly. These new believers were dear to them. As a father or mother would selflessly care for their children, so Paul and his co-workers selflessly gave for the sake of the believers.

Suffering was to be expected. The missionary team had experienced it. The Thessalonian believers were experiencing it. But their reward was not to be found in personal benefit, but in the joy of seeing people come to faith in Christ and then walk in a manner worthy of Him.

What is the reward you desire? Is it a reward that benefits you? Or is it a reward that brings glory to Jesus?

**Reading for Next Week:** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-20