

# Compelling Love

Paul's First Letter to Thessalonica

08 November, 2009 | Flushing Community Church

## How can this series be maximized for me? Consider ...

- 1) reading 1 Thessalonians repeatedly
- 2) bring your Bibles to church for note taking and further study
- 3) commit to memory the key verse from each week
- 4) go further in the study by utilizing the "Digging Deeper" area on the back of this insert

## What strikes me about Paul's journey to Thessalonica?

{read about it in Acts 17}

## Discipleship means ...

Who are you \_\_\_\_\_,  
and who is \_\_\_\_\_ you?

"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

1 Corinthians 11:1

## Paul's discipleship equation ...

- 1) work produced by \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) labor prompted by \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) endurance inspired by \_\_\_\_\_



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## Encounter these verses today:

*circle* words that you identify with, *underline* phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side

### Acts 17:1-9 (NIV) [Paul travels to Thessalonica]

<sup>1</sup>When they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. <sup>2</sup>As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ," he said. <sup>4</sup>Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and not a few prominent women.

<sup>5</sup>But the Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. <sup>6</sup>But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other brothers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, <sup>7</sup>and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." <sup>8</sup>When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. <sup>9</sup>Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

### 1 Thessalonians 1:2-8 NIV [Thanksgiving for Faith]

<sup>2</sup>We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. <sup>3</sup>**We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. <sup>7</sup>And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. <sup>8</sup>The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere.

### Digging Deeper this week ...

*If you would like to take today's teaching to the next level, then start digging!*

*Take the following steps ...*

- 1) Take some time this week to commit to memory 1 Thessalonians 1:3. Read it in other translations and find the one that fits you.
- 2) Become more aware of your own opportunities to allow your own life to be influenced by faith, hope and love like these people did. Use a separate piece of paper for each and list the ways they have impacted your journey this week. (ie. title one sheet "hope" and list the times you held to hope).
- 3) Read Hebrews 10:22-24 & Romans 5:1-5. How is the discipleship equation of faith, hope and love active in these verses? How can this scripture impact your walk?
- 4) Looking forward to next Sunday, read chapter 4 of 1 Thessalonians several times. Commit to memory verses 7,11-12.

*Share your journey, thoughts, questions, insights, and growth moments with someone. Tell them what God has shown you and how you are experiencing faith, hope & love.*