

Faith, Hope and Love

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Points to Consider

1. Their work of faith
2. Their labor of love
3. Their patience of hope

Their work of faith

Acts 17:1-4

The Christians in Thessalonica believed Jesus is the Christ based on _____ from the Scriptures.

A foundational element of Paul's teaching from Scripture was that the Christ had to _____ and rise from the dead.

The deeper your faith is in Jesus being the Christ and God's Son, the more powerfully that faith will be evidenced by your _____.

1 Timothy 5:10 – widows who were taken care of by the church had to have a _____ of good works.

1 Tim 6:17-19

Paul tells Timothy to instruct the rich not to trust in the uncertainty of riches, but in the living God.

Trust (faith) in God is what _____ them to be rich in good works, ready to give and willing to share.

Paul told Titus to be a _____ of good works. (Titus 2:7)

Christians are to be _____ for good works. (Titus 2:14)

James 2:21-24 Abraham was justified by works because he did not _____ Isaac from the Lord.

Matt 5:13-16 - The purpose of our good works is to bring glory to _____!

Labor of Love

2 Cor 11:22-29 - Paul's deep concern for the churches caused him to _____ and suffer to assure their salvation.

Acts 17:10 *Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.* NKJV

The Thessalonians showed their love for Paul and Silas by sending them away at night to _____ them from the evil people of the city.

1 Thess 3:6-13 - Timothy had returned to Thessalonica while Paul was in Athens to encourage and build up the saints there.

Timothy brought back good news to Paul concerning their faith and love.

In verse 12 he mentions that the _____ would help them increase and abound in love for all people.

1 Thess 4:9-10 *But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; 10 and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more.* NKJV

The Thessalonians were taught by God to love _____ the brethren in Macedonia.

2 Thess 1:3 *We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other.* NKJV

In Paul's second letter he again praises them for their growing faith and their _____ love.

Their patience of hope

The Thessalonians had a _____ and confident expectation of salvation.

In verse 4 we find out their hope was founded on being _____ by God.

Acts 17:2-4 - Being elected by God is based on believing and responding to what the Scriptures say about Jesus being the Christ.

Rom 5:1-5 - The word perseverance in this passage is the same as patience in 1 Thes 1:3.

In Romans 5:4 Paul tells us that _____ produces character and character produces _____.

Rom 8:23-25 *Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.* NKJV

It's easy to wait for something you are hoping for if you expect it will happen soon.

It requires patience to eagerly _____ for something when you don't know when you will get it.

Practical Application

What are former preachers or members thankful for when they think about this group?

What three things would they continually thank God for?

What about your personally? What three things would people thank God for concerning you?

Thank God for someone in your life and send them a note telling them what you thanked God for.