

Scripture Reading:

1 THESSALONIANS

1:1 – 10



IMITATORS & EXAMPLES

A Series in 1 Thessalonians



IS IMITATION A VIRTUE?



or: Does a dingy make a good fishing boat?

IMITATING JESUS MEANS IMITATING HIS EXAMPLES

**Imitate those where the evidence of
grace points to thriving perseverance.**

4 DYNAMICS OF THRIVING PERSEVERENCE

1. Conversion
2. Worship
3. Discipleship
4. Martyrdom

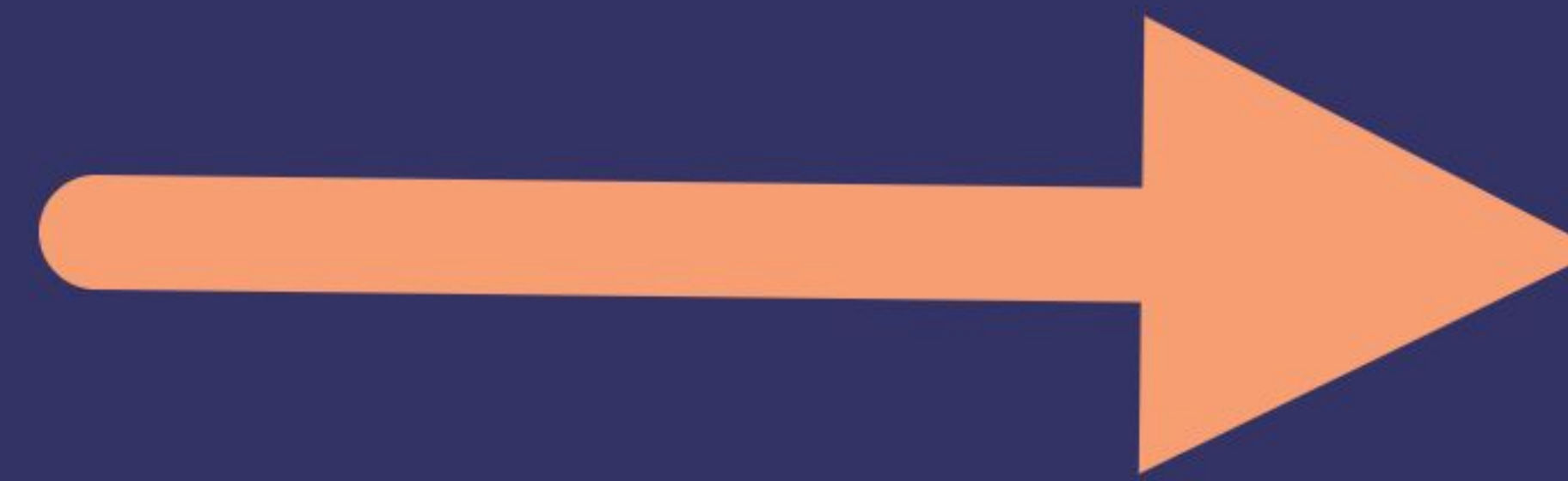
Today: 3 + 4

DISCIPLESHIP

We imitate those who are proven examples in pursuit of godliness

DISCIPLESHIP

Conversion
Worship



Imitation

1 THESSALONIANS 1:5 – 7

You know how we lived among you for your sake. 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. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

PARTS OF IMITATION:

Integrity—“How we lived among you”

Inspiration—“For your sake”

Appreciation—“You became imitators of us”

Cost—“In spite of severe suffering”

Change—“So you became a model”

GOSPEL AND GODLINESS

vs 6 “You became imitators of us and of the Lord.”

DISCIPLESHIP

Teach and imitate the
Gospel and godliness

MARTYRDOM

**Being a faithful witness no matter
what will happen to you.**

1 THESSALONIANS 1:7 – 8

And so **you became a model** to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message **rang out from you** not only in Macedonia and Achaia—**your faith in God has become known everywhere.**

THE SPEED OF LIFE

1 Thessalonians 1:9

...for **they themselves report** what kind of reception you gave us. **They tell** how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS

1 Thessalonians 2:2

We had previously suffered and been **insulted** in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God **we dared to tell you his gospel** in spite of strong opposition.

THE FAMILY LINE

1 Thessalonians 2:14 – 16

For you, brothers, became imitators of God's **churches in Judea**, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews, who killed **the Lord Jesus** and **the prophets** and also **drove us out**. They **displease God and are hostile to all men** in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved.

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