**THE GOSPEL: NOT A HUMAN WORD BUT GOD’S WORD**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

Key Verse 2:13 “And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.”

1. How had they been “treated outrageously” in Philippi? (Acts 16:19–24) What “strong opposition” had they experienced in Thessalonica? (Acts 17:5) How did God bless Paul’s ministry in spite of these circumstances? (1; cf. Acts 16:40)

2. How did Paul defend his ministry from false accusations (3-6a)? What motivated him to preach the gospel (4; Acts 9:15)? Why is it important to please God in ministry?

3. What does it mean to care for people “as a nursing mother”? (7) Why is it important to share life together as well as the gospel message? (8)

4. How else did Paul describe how his team lived while preaching the gospel in Thessalonica? (9-10) How did they treat the new believers there? (11-12)

5. Why is it important to accept the word of God as it actually is (13; cf. 2Timothy 3:16)? What effect did this have on the Thessalonian church? (14)