

Missions: The Gospel Impacting Lives

This 5-day devotional guide is based on 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 and will help prepare your heart for the upcoming Sunday sermon, "Missions: The Gospel Impacting Lives." It may also be used as a guide for family devotions the week ending Saturday, January 31. Guest missionary Roberto Coelho will be preaching this sermon.

Monday

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3

Questions for Reflection

- What three qualities does Paul remember about the believers?
- How does Paul connect these qualities to the believers' relationship with God and Christ?
- Which of these three qualities seem strongest in your life right now? Which one needs growth?
- What could you do to display these qualities today?

Questions for Children

- What three good things does Paul remember about the church in this passage?

- How do these good things show that the people really believed in Jesus?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, help me grow in faith, love, and hope so others see the gospel in my life. Strengthen our church family to show these qualities clearly in our community.

Tuesday

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

Questions for Reflection

- How does Paul describe the way the gospel came to the Thessalonians?
- What does this reveal about God's role in gospel proclamation?
- When have you personally sensed the Holy Spirit helping you understand or share the gospel?
- Who is one person you could prayerfully and lovingly proclaim the gospel to this week?

Questions for Children

- What does Paul say about how the good news came to the people?
- Who helped Paul share the message in a powerful way?

Prayer Prompt

Holy Spirit, empower me to speak the gospel with clarity and love. Use my words to point someone to Jesus.

Wednesday

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:6

Questions for Reflection

- How did the people respond when they heard the gospel message?
- What surprising attitude did they show even in difficulty?
- How do you usually respond when following Jesus is uncomfortable?
- What would it look like to receive God's Word with joy in the challenges you're facing right now?

Questions for Children

- How did the people respond when they heard the message about Jesus?
- What special kind of joy did God give them?

Prayer Prompt

Father, give me a heart that joyfully receives Your Word, especially when obedience is hard. Help me follow Jesus with gladness.

Thursday

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:7-9

Questions for Reflection

- How did the people become examples to surrounding regions?
- What reports were spreading about their faith and commitment to God?
- How can your life "sound out" the gospel to people around you?

- What habits or attitudes might God want to change so you can become a better example to others?

Questions for Children

- Who did the Thessalonian believers become examples for?
- What good news about them spread to other places?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, let my life be a clear example of Your grace. Help me influence others to Jesus through my words and choices.

Friday

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:58

Questions for Reflection

- What were the people waiting for?
- What does this anticipation reveal about their new identity and hope?
- How does remembering Christ's return encourage or challenge you?
- What is one area where you need to turn away from old patterns and more fully turn toward God?

Questions for Children

- Who are God's people waiting for?
- What special thing will Jesus do for His followers?

Prayer Prompt

Lord Jesus, keep my heart focused on Your return and help me live with hope and courage. Turn me away from anything that pulls me from You