

## INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

### INDUCTIVE LESSON ONE

#### GRACE TO YOU

1 Thessalonians 1

#### Day One

Text: (Begin this week's lesson by reading the assigned passage several times.)

Hint: Read the passage repeatedly, prayerfully, thoughtfully, meditatively and patiently.

1 Thessalonians 1

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, 3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, 4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. 5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. 9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

**Memory Verse:** 1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing."

## Day Two

**Words Matter:** In this portion of the lesson we will take a closer look at one or two key words in the chapter. You will need to have your tools or resources at hand, such as more than one Bible translation, a dictionary or Bible dictionary, concordance, atlas, and encyclopedia. If you don't have all of these, simply use what you do have to enrich your learning. To do some digging on your own, start with your dictionary (or Bible dictionary) and then look up the references to add to your understanding. If you have additional resources, you may want to keep digging. Record these additional notes in the Tool Box section of your study. After you've completed the investigative process, write a definition in your own words. Your investigation in today's lesson will lay the groundwork for deeper discoveries in subsequent lessons, so be as thorough as you can.

**Grace:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1

"...Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Dictionary or Concordance definition:

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What does the Bible have to say?

John 1:17

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Ephesians 2:8

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Write your own definition:

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## Day Three

**Toolbox:** Use your toolbox or secondary helps to enhance your observational findings.

Study Bible:

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Bible Concordance:

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Bible Dictionary:

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Bible Handbooks:

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Bible Atlas:

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Bible Commentary:

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## Day Four

### **Inductively Speaking:**

Even the strongest of saints cannot handle life's challenges perfectly. God paints with a detailed brush, balancing each portrait or person with the light and dark shades of things that are true to life. He gives us the good, the bad, and the ugly. Everyone who reads His Word must learn from these imperfect saints in the light of His truth. He desires that we have the whole truth and nothing but the truth whether it is found in the sin of a king or the faith of a leper. God's Word in every story, every psalm, every proverb, and every doctrine contains truth for this reason: To guide believers with real issues in true-to-life situations in a world ruled by Satan and his deceptive lies.

### 1 Thessalonians 1:1

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.









## **New to the inductive study?**

Welcome, brothers, to this year's inductive study program. We pray that this method of study will reveal to you many new treasures from God's Word. To those of you who have been enrolled in the inductive study program here at Harvest, it's a blessing to have you back. God's blessings to those of you who are trying this method of study for the first time. There has been an excitement building among the Men's Bible Fellowship ministry for some time now over what God will be revealing to all of us through His Word while studying Paul's first letter to the believers in Thessalonica.

If you are learning this method for the first time, relax! We will be covering approximately one chapter per week. This will give us plenty of time to understand not only the method of inductive learning but also the meaning of God's Word. We will be learning to study in a disciplined and systematic way, continually asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to us insights into living holy and acceptable lives to Him through the inspired writing of the apostle Paul. Every week there will be brothers available to answer questions regarding the inductive study method: your group leader, two senior group leaders and the inductive lesson coordinators. They are all trained and capable teachers of the inductive method. All your studies are formatted in a particular layout that lends itself well to inductive learning. Remember to utilize all the materials and study helps you received during the orientation time of our first night together. We encourage every inductive student to pick up a copy of "Living by the Book" written by Howard Hendricks.

For those of you who are new to this inductive method, remember, this is a process and no one is expected to learn this process in one sitting, five weeks or an entire year. God's Word has tremendous depth. The study is designed for both beginners and seasoned students of the Scriptures. In some areas of the Bible we can pick up nuggets of God's precious stones on the surface. Other sections of Scripture require deeper digging to reveal even more treasures we may apply to our lives, enabling God to use each of us in His kingdom and to spread the gospel message of Jesus Christ. The patience of our Lord and Savior is one of His greatest attributes. Let this same patience be in you while He reveals not only the process of this study method but most importantly, the meaning and application of His eternal Word.

### **Lecture Notes:**