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# INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

## DEDUCTIVE LESSON TWO

### 1 Thessalonians 2

**Day One:** Verses 1–2

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1–2.

1. What are these verses saying?

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Verse 2 mentions how Paul, Silas, and Timothy were spitefully treated at Philippi. Let's look at what happened there. Read Acts 16:9–40, and answer the following questions?

2. What was it that led these men to Macedonia (the area where both Philippi and Thessalonica are located—see map)?

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3. What did Paul and the others do on the Sabbath day?

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4. Who did they meet there, and what did she persuade them to do?

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5. What happened on the way (Acts 16:16–18)?

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6. What did the slave-girl's master do, and why?

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7. What "spiteful treatment" did the magistrates inflict on Paul and Silas (verses 22–23)?

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8. How did this turn out to be a blessing (verses 25–34)?

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9. Then what happened (verses 35–40)?

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**Scripture Memory:** This week's Scripture Memory passage is 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13:

"And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves." 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13 NKJV

**Day Two:** Verses 3–6

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:3–6 and answer the following questions.

1. These verses speak of the motivation of Paul and the others, in sharing the gospel with the Thessalonians. What was this motivation?

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2. “We speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.” What do the following verses have to add to this?

1 Samuel 16:7

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Mark 12:14

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Ephesians 6:5–9

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3. “For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know...” What do these two verses say about flattering words?

Proverbs 20:19

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Proverbs 28:23

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**Scripture Memory:** Fill in the missing words from memory.

“And we urge you, brethren, to \_\_\_\_\_ those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in \_\_\_\_\_ for their work’s sake. Be at \_\_\_\_\_ among yourselves.” 1 Thessalonians \_\_:12–13 NKJV

**Day Three:** Verses 7–12

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7–12.

1. In verse 7, the writers of this epistle liken themselves to a nursing mother, in their behavior and attitude toward the Thessalonians. What words, in verses 7 and 8, help to describe this?

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2. Then, in verse 12, they compare themselves to a father. What are the key words in verses 10–12?

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3. What do you learn from verse 9?

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4. In Luke 13:34, Jesus compared Himself to a mother (of sorts). What did He say?

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5. It is the picture of a father, however, that teaches us about our Lord's love for us. What do the following verses tell us about our Heavenly Father?

1 John 3:1a

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Romans 8:15

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Matthew 7:11

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Matthew 10:29–31

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**Scripture Memory:** Fill in the missing words from memory.

"And we urge you, brethren, to \_\_\_\_\_ those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and \_\_\_\_\_ you, and to esteem them very \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for their work's sake. Be at \_\_\_\_\_ among \_\_\_\_\_." \_\_ Thessalonians \_\_:12–13

**Day Four:** Verses 13–16

Reread 1 Thessalonians 2:1–12, for review. Then read verses 13–16 and answer the following questions.

1. Why else did Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy constantly thank God, according to verse 13?

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2. Why were the Thessalonians like the churches in Judea?

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3. What do verses 15 and 16 tell us about the Judeans who persecuted the Christians?

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4. The Thessalonians received God's word for what it truly was: the word of God and not the word of man. What do these verses say about the word of God?

Hebrews 4:12

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2 Timothy 3:16–17

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Romans 15:4

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5. The first chapter of John teaches us that Jesus is the Word of God. What do you learn about Jesus from John 1:1–5?

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**Scripture Memory:** Fill in the missing words from memory.

"And we \_\_\_\_\_ you, brethren, to \_\_\_\_\_ those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and \_\_\_\_\_ you, and to \_\_\_\_\_ them very \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for their work's sake. Be at \_\_\_\_\_ among \_\_\_\_\_." 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

**Day Five:** Verses 17-20

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:17-20.

1. The writers of this epistle wanted to return to Thessalonica to visit the believers there. Why didn't they?

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2. What words do they use to refer to the Thessalonians, in verses 19 and 20?

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Paul and the other writers indicate that they were hindered by Satan in their endeavors to return to the Thessalonians. Many Christians today do not give much thought to Satan, his demons, and the roles that they play. Let's spend the rest of the day examining these subjects.

3. Who is Satan and where did he come from?

Ezekiel 28:14-15

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Isaiah 14:12-14 and Luke 10:18

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4. What do the devil and the demons do?

1 Peter 5:8

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John 10:10

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5. What instructions are we given in regards to the devil?

Ephesians 6:11

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James 4:7

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6. What does the future hold for Satan (Revelation 20:10)?

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**Scripture Memory:** Write this week's Scripture Memory verse completely from memory.

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\_\_\_\_\_."  
\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Day Six: Personal Application**

1. "We were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict" (1 Thessalonians 2:2). Does this verse describe you? Are you bold in speaking the gospel? If not, you are not alone. The trouble comes in trying to muster boldness from within oneself. However, Ephesians 3:11-12 tells us that it is "Christ Jesus our Lord in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him." Take time to pray for boldness now. List names of people with whom you would like to speak boldly (yet lovingly) concerning the gospel.

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2. Verses 10-12 tell the Thessalonians "You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His kingdom and glory." Ask the Spirit to speak to you personally through these verses. How can you apply these verses to your own life?

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3. Paul and the other writers of this epistle called themselves gentle, like a nursing mother. In today's society of violence and rage, gentleness is not highly-esteemed by the world. Yet in Galatians 5:23, we learn that gentleness is an indication of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Do you struggle with issues of violence? Ask the Holy Spirit to intervene in your life. Ask your group members for prayer.

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