

INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

INDUCTIVE LESSON TWO

A DISCIPLE'S HEART

1 Thessalonians 2

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 For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. 2 But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict. 3 For our exhortation did not come from error or uncleanness, nor was it in deceit.

4 But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts. 5 For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness — God is witness. 6 Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. 7 But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. 8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us. 9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

10 You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; 11 as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, 12 that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men, 16 forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up the measure of their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

17 But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. 18 Therefore we wanted to come to you — even I, Paul, time and again — but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? 20 For you are our glory and joy.

Memory Verse: 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.”

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.

Vain: 1 Thessalonians 2:1

“For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.”

Dictionary or Concordance definition:

What does the Bible have to say?

Isaiah 65:23

Galatians 2:21

Write your own definition:

Day Three

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

Study Bible:

Bible Concordance:

Bible Dictionary:

Bible Handbooks:

Bible Atlas:

Bible Commentary:

Day Four

Inductively Speaking:

Whether you are a repeat student to this inductive program or you are new, it takes time and discipline to discover the benefits of the inductive learning method of study. After last week's group time and getting a chance to share your responses with one another, how do you think you did? Whether you felt you were right on target or way off course isn't a big concern at this

Inductively Speaking:

Most important to Bible study, above all else, is going before the Lord asking for the Spirit to empty you of the things that affect you in your day-to-day life. Give God this opportunity to speak to you with your undivided attention. Remember, you're passing through this place called Earth on the way to your true home in heaven. With the help of the Holy Spirit, God's Word will be illuminated in ways that you will be undoubtedly blessed.

II. Interpretation: Discovering the lessons or meaning of God's instruction to His people.

Hint: Try to place yourself with these people, in their circumstances, at this time of Bible history.

Verse 1-12

Inductively Speaking:

This area of inductive learning has potentially the most impact on our lives and those that we influence. All Bible study students must come to this area of the inductive process with this in mind: What do I do with the lessons of God's Word that I have discovered? Brothers, God's lessons to us contain truth and it is in His truth that we must always begin and end our days. "Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day" (Psalm 25:5).

III. Application: Applying the lessons and meaning of God's instructions to His people.

Hint: Apply the lesson or lessons you found in the interpretation section in the form of a question.

Verse 1-12

Day Five

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 (Today's highlighted passage of study.)

13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do

not please God and are contrary to all men, 16 forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up the measure of their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

I. Observation: Finding the literal facts or most obvious details of the passage.

Hint: Begin observation by asking the questions who, what, where, when, why, and how.

Verses 13–16

II. Interpretation: Discovering the lessons or meaning of God's instruction to His people.

Hint: Try to place yourself with these people, in their circumstances, at this time of Bible history.

Verses 13–16

III. Application: Applying the lessons and meaning of God's instructions to His people.

Hint: Apply the lesson or lessons you found in the interpretation section in the form of a question.

Verses 13–16

Day Six

1 Thessalonians 2:17–20 (Today’s highlighted passage of study.)

17 But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. 18 Therefore we wanted to come to you — even I, Paul, time and again — but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? 20 For you are our glory and joy.

I. Observation: Finding the literal facts or most obvious details of the passage.

Hint: Begin observation by asking the questions who, what, where, when, why, and how.

Verses 17–20

II. Interpretation: Discovering the lessons or meaning of God's instruction to His people.

Hint: Try to place yourself with these people, in their circumstances, at this time of Bible history.

Verses 17–20

III. Application: Applying the lessons and meaning of God's instructions to His people.

Hint: Apply the lesson or lessons you found in the interpretation section in the form of a question.

Verses 17–20

Memory Verse: 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.”

Impact Statement: A simple personal statement about how the Holy Spirit will, if you allow Him, guide and direct you from this week's study.

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Lecture Notes: