21.05.07 The Church – Ingredients for Growth 1 Thessalonians 2:1 – 12

What helps followers of Jesus become   in the rich soil of faith?

How do you contribute to the church ?

1. **Are you being a faithful steward of the ?**

1 Thessalonians 2:1 – 6

The message of the  is a  God has entrusted to you. Verse 4

We can   the Good News recognizing that the goal is to please God.

1. **Are you providing patient, gentle in God’s word?** Verses 7 – 8

 – characteristic of Jesus Matthew 11:29

  means a yearning love for someone 2 Corinthians 9:14

This is the  of  God calls us to as followers of Jesus. 2 Timothy 2:2; Matthew 28:19 – 20

A question we need to ask ourselves: Who is your ? Who is your Timothy?

This is one of the keys to  followers of Jesus  spiritually strong – gently and patiently feeding them the Word of God.

1. **Are you providing an of one who walks worthy of God?** Verses 9 – 12

The objective is the help others  in a manner  of God.

In verse 12 – Walk in a manner worthy of God means to  in a way that compares favorably to the God who called / elected you.

  provides an  for followers of Jesus who are seeking to understand how to grow and function in this broken world as new creations…which they have never been before.

Counterbalancing the image of a mother in verse 7 we see the image of a father in verse 11.

 = *para kaleo* –

 by comforting and consoling

 = to bear witness, to insist, to testify from personal experience…I’ve been there; laying down the law.

Are you  out your faith in a  that  other followers of Jesus to live more fully and completely for God?

Conclusion

This happens as  – who are indeed the church – engage in making disciples by sharing the light and life of the Good News!