

Let's Be a Model Church in 2024!

Unstoppable, Pt. 2

1 Thessalonians 1:4-10

January 14, 2024

1 Thessalonians 1:1, Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. **2** We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. **3** We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:7, And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

To Be a Model Church in 2024, We Should...

1. Be Gospel DRIVEN

1 Thessalonians 1:4, For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, **5** because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

- The Gospel Is GOOD NEWS

John 3:16, For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Ephesians 2:4, But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

- The Gospel Is PERSONAL

Romans 1:16, For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

- The Gospel Is POWERFUL

Ephesians 1:13, And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

- The Gospel Is More than WORDS

Matthew 5:16, In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2. Be Imitators of CHRIST

1 Thessalonians 1:6, You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 11:1, Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

1 Peter 2:21, To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

3. Be a Model for Other BELIEVERS

1 Thessalonians 1:7, *And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.*

John 13:15, *I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

4. Be Open About OUR FAITH

1 Thessalonians 1:8, *The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, 9 for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God...*