



## DEMONSTRATE – IMITATE – MODEL 1 Thessalonians Chapter 1:5-10

LESSON 2 Demonstrate – Imitate – Model **Terri McFaddin-Solomon, M.A.**

During the time that Paul set out to establish a church in the city of Thessalonica, Christianity was still a sect of within the Jewish religion. Unlike other mainstream Jewish sects, this new order of worship, established by the followers of Jesus, attracted both Jews and Gentiles. As a result, Paul and Silas faced persecution from the established Jewish religious leaders. Paul was labeled as a troublemaker and a deceiver, then run out of town. Yet, his message of salvation through Jesus Christ took root and the Christian church at Thessalonian continued to flourish.

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 gives three important keys to impacting people in such a way that it will lead to their spiritual growth and also allow you to experience growth.

### DEMONSTRATE

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 1:5

For our gospel came to you not simply with words but also

- (1) **with power,**
- (2) **with the Holy Spirit,**
- (3) **with deep conviction.**

You know how we lived among you for your sake.

*The demonstration of your true spiritual walk brings light to those who are not sure how to make the Word of God part of their daily lifestyle experiences. Can I drink alcohol? Have sex as a single person? The answers not only come from the Word of God, but the conviction of the Holy Spirit.*

### IMITATE

#### 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 joy given by the Holy Spirit.

*Your level or spiritual maturity and commitment to Christ can be clearly seen in the people that imitate your walk. If your walk with Christ is compromised, you may be responsible for leading others astray. If your walk is godly, you will help others live a victorious Christian life. 1 Corinthians 11:1 – Imitate me as I imitate Christ.*

### MODEL

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 1:7-8

**You became a model** to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. Your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it.

*It's important to recognize that many people view the truth of the gospel by the examples set by the personal relationships they have with Christian. It is a blessing when you are known for living a godly life. Like Paul, be prepared to face rejection by those who will oppose your Christian values.*

### PERSONALIZATION:

1. **Read 2 Corinthians 3:2.** In what ways do you demonstrated your faith to unbelievers?
2. Who have you imitated in you walk with Christ? Who has imitated your walk with Christ?
3. In what ways can you be a model for Jesus Christ?
4. Identify and pray concerning areas where you need to improve your spiritual walk.