Gospel | Connection with God and Each Other | 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

James Hawkins

This week we are going to start with a time of silence and reflection. We're going to slow down to assess the state of our hearts. It is so easy to fly through each day at the crazy pace of the culture we live in, but apprentices of Jesus are called to live in a counter-cultural way. We are to demonstrate to the world around us that the way of Jesus is the way of true LIFE.

- What would be the one word or image that would describe how your heart feels right now?
- · What is causing you to feel anxious, stressed, or overwhelmed? What would it look like for you to trust Jesus in these situations?

Read 1 Thessalonians chapters 1 & 2.

The trifecta of faith, hope, and love show up throughout Paul's letters (see I Thessalonians 1:3). How would you define each of these words? What pictures or images come to mind when you think of each of them?

Faith, hope, and love can often seem like very theoretical or spiritual words, but notice the words that Paul pairs with each of them in verse 3: work, labor, steadfastness.

How do those words add to or affect the way you think about faith, hope, and love? What do you notice about the way that Paul continues to talk about these ideas in the rest of chapters 1 and 2?

How do you see faith, hope, and love at work in your life on a daily basis? How would you like to see them worked out in your life?

PRACTICING THE SPIRITUAL RHYTHMS

Finish your time together by praying for one another. Pray that the members of your group would grow in:

- faith—trusting that God's way is the way to true life and fulfillment.
- hope—resting and rejoicing in God's promises that He is in control and He is making all things new.
- · love—knowing who God is calling them to show love to this week. Think specifically of those who can be hard to love.

Connect DAILY clarity2020.org	
Sunday	1Thessalonians 2:13-20
Monday Psa	2 Corinthians 4:1-5:10; Im 119:161-176; Proverbs 27:8-10
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:11-6:13; Psalm 120; Proverbs 27:11-13
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 6:14-7:16; Psalm 121; Proverbs 27:14-16
Thursday	2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15; Psalm 122; Proverbs 27:17-19
Friday	2 Corinthians 10:1-18; Psalm 123; Proverbs 27:20-23
Saturday	2 Corinthians 11:1-33;

Psalm 124: Proverbs 27:24-27