



## Gospel

Let's take this week to look back and recap. There are two clear themes that seem to run parallel through the first half of Paul's letter to the church in Thessalonica: "the Gospel" and "suffering."

### Read 1 Thessalonians chapters 1-3.

Notice how "the Gospel" (or the "word of God") and "suffering" show up close together in the text.

**Why do you think Paul connects these two things throughout the first part of his letter?**

**What is Paul's hope and prayer for the Thessalonians at the end of chapter 3?**

**Do these seem like strange things for Paul to pray for a church that is dealing with opposition and persecution?**

Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians is not that their suffering would cease but rather that their love would increase. If abounding love (3:12-13) is Paul's prayer for a church experiencing intense persecution, how much more should that be our aim as well. We live in a culture and context where followers of Jesus have never been subject to the kind of suffering and persecution that the Thessalonians lived through. **How much more abundant should our love for one another and for our neighbors be?**

**How can your group seek to imitate the church in Thessalonica by "abounding in love for one another and for all" (3:12)?**

**What would it look like for your group to become known as the people who live and love like Jesus?**

**How might that open up opportunities to share the Good News about Jesus the Messiah?**

## Connect DAILY

[clarity2020.org](http://clarity2020.org)

**Sunday**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

**Monday**

Hebrews 4:14-5:10;  
Psalm 132:1-7; Proverbs 28:19-21

**Tuesday**

Hebrews 5:11-6:20;  
Psalm 132:8-18; Proverbs 28:22-24

**Wednesday**

Hebrews 7:1-28;  
Psalm 133-134; Proverbs 28:25-28

**Thursday**

Hebrews 8:1-13;  
Psalm 135:1-9; Proverbs 29:1-3

**Friday**

Hebrews 9:1-28;  
Psalm 135:10-21; Proverbs 29:4-6

**Saturday**

Hebrews 10:1-18;  
Psalm 136:1-7; Proverbs 29:7-9