

STUDY 3: GOSPEL & CONFLICT

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1 – 16

With Gospel telling comes Gospel conflict. It is inevitable, Jesus divides people (Matt. 10:34). It cost Him His life (Luke 9:21, 22) and He calls those who would follow Him to expect no different (Luke 9:23 – 27). Gospel suffering was a part of Paul's life (Acts 9:15, 16) and had now become part of the Thessalonians'.

DEEP IN THE WORD

1. In light of this, discuss Paul's ...

- a. Gospel boldness (v.1,2)
- b. Gospel mindset (v.3-6) and,
- c. Gospel heart (v.7-12)

2. How should Paul's Gospel life shape, inform and spur on ours, as a church, a Growth Group and as followers of Jesus?

Verse 13 contains a foundational Gospel truth.

3. What is that foundational truth?

4. What does Paul mean when he asserts that his teaching is not the word of men but really, the word of God? *Discuss.*

Verses 14-16 are sobering both in their summation of the Thessalonian's Gospel experience and the Jewish Gospel opposition.

5. Discuss both.

DEEP IN PRAYER

Pray for our political leaders as Paul directs us (2 Timothy 2) that they may govern in a way that promotes Godly living and the salvation of 'all people'.