

LESSON 2

COMING SOON!

1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-10



1 What is one thing you look forward to every day?

2 What do you look forward to in . . .

sports? _____

family life? _____

your line of work? _____

your church? _____



Read 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10 and the following notes:

☐ 1:3 ☐ 1:6 ☐ 1:9, 10 ☐ 1:10

3 What were the Thessalonian believers anticipating (1:3)?

4 What did these new Christians face because of their faith (1:6)?

5 What happened as a result of their obedience to the Lord (1:7-9)?

6 What does it take (mentally, emotionally, spiritually) to maintain a sense of continual anticipation?

Three things about the Thessalonian believers impressed Paul. One of those things was their “continual anticipation” of, or longing for, Christ’s return. Perhaps their enthusiasm for this event can be attributed to their belief that Christ would return within their lifetime. The “severe suffering” they endured for their faith could also have provided the fuel they needed to long for Christ’s return continually. But maybe their longing was similar to Paul’s. That is, they just wanted to be in the presence of their Lord and Savior (see Philippians 1:23). Regardless of the reason for their anticipation, the Thessalonian believers set a good example for all Christians to follow. If we claim to be followers of Christ, we should long for his return. Are you eagerly looking forward to that day?



7 How do modern-day Christians compare with the Thessalonian believers in regard to anticipating Christ’s return?

8 What keeps some Christians from looking forward to Christ’s return?

9 What helps Christians look forward to and wait expectantly for Christ's return?



10 What dulls your desire for Christ's return?

11 How did this distraction gain a foothold in your life?

12 What activities or relationships keep you from longing for Christ's return?



13 What activity, desire, or relationship do you need to give up in order to recapture an eager anticipation of meeting Christ one day?

14 What do you need to begin doing this week to strengthen your desire for his return?

A How did Paul know that God had chosen the Thessalonians (1:4, 5)? What evidence of God's work do you see in your life?

B Whom did the Thessalonians imitate (1:6)? How have older, more mature Christians served as examples for you? How can you be a good example?

C What did the Holy Spirit do for the Thessalonian believers that made them willing to undergo suffering and persecution (1:6)? How can you rely on the Holy Spirit in times of difficulty?

D The Thessalonian Christians changed so radically that many people noticed. Who would notice if you suddenly changed the way you live? What changes is God prompting you to make now?

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