

Paul's letters to the Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

NSP School of Life and Doctrine

Spring Session 2010

Week 3

Review of 2:1-16...

Paul's Self-Defense (2:1-10)

Paul's Exhortation (2:11-12)

Paul's Security (2:13-16)



The ancient marketplace at Thessalonica

Paul's Big Love for the Thessalonians (2:17-20)

Paul's Big Concern for the Thessalonians (3:1-5)

Paul's Big Prayer for the Thessalonians (3:6-13)



Small Group Discussion:

1. How can these Christians be a “hope or joy or crown of boasting before the Lord” for Paul (2:19-20)? Describe how you are this to someone else. How does this motivate you to walk in a manner worthy of God?
2. What do you think are the greatest, most imminent dangers to your faith in Christ (3:1-5)? How do you deal with them?
3. If the Lord were to make us “increase and abound in love for one another and for all” as Paul and his companions did for the Thessalonians (3:12), what would that look like at NSP? Think of 3 specific examples.
4. What does this increase in love have to do with our hearts being established “blameless in holiness before God” (3:13)?
5. In these verses Paul twice mentions the “parousia” – the coming – of our Lord Jesus and he refers to it 4 more times in these letters. Does your anticipation of the 2nd coming shape your daily life at all? Why and how? Or why not?