

## Be the Church

*Keep the Gospel – I Thessalonians 2:7b-13*

## Discussion Points

October 6, 2019

### Read & Reflect

1. Read I Thessalonians 2:1-16. What are some of the things Paul says about the Gospel and the word of God?
2. Why do you think Paul makes at least three family references to the new Christians in Thessalonica (see verse 7a, 7b, and verse 11; see also “orphaned” in 2:17). What does that say about how Paul viewed his work, and how he viewed the people whom he addressed.

### Explore

1. Jesus’ crucifixion was a stumbling block to hearing the gospel good news for Jews because they expected a conquering hero not a suffering servant put to death by Gentiles. What kind of stumbling block hinders you from hearing the good news of the gospel? How do you expect Jesus to act for you?
2. How is the word of God at work in your life? (See verse 13).
3. What trials and temptations pull you away from the good news of the gospel?
4. Paul describes a lot about how he related to and worked with others. What descriptions or characterizations in verses 7-12 would you want said of you?
5. Do you think of yourself as a “spiritual parent” as you grow up in Christ with fellow Christians? How could you demonstrate that?

### Pray

- Quietly read I Thessalonians 2:7-13 with a thought to how God wants to stir your heart. What thoughts, passions, or images arise? Pray about them.
- Pray about “keeping the Gospel” and about the stumbling blocks that hinder entering into its good news.
- Pray into the desire to be a spiritual parent and for God to provide opportunity to help others grow up into Christ.

