

Sunday, September 10, 2023

Welcome to congregational worship at **Buffalo City Church**

We're so glad you've joined us this morning! We hope you feel at home here, but more than that, we desire for you to know the joy and peace that come to us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

SERMON OUTLINE

A Spiritual Parentage

Text: **1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**; cf. *Prov. 13:24, 22:15, 29:15*; *1 Cor. 9:8-11*; *Philemon 8-9*; *Heb 13:17*; *1 Pet. 5:1-3*;

I. Intro

- Corrective discipline wielded by a parent is sometimes necessary, but it is not to be the parent's first choice.
- The point of this passage for Paul is to re-establish his credibility as a loving authority to the Thessalonians.

II. Paul came to the Thessalonians seeking to please God

- Paul, Silas, and Timothy came to the Thessalonians effectively.
 - They had already suffered and were shamefully treated.
 - They did not flatter the people.
 - They didn't come in the pretext for greed and seek glory.
- You will not benefit from a pastor/elder who wants to please you before he wants to please God.

III. Paul came to the Thessalonians in gentleness like a mother

- A mother does not make demands of her infant.
- Paul felt affection for the Thessalonians and it led him to share not only the gospel with them, but his entire life.

IV. Paul came to the Thessalonians in encouragement like a father

- As children grow and mature, their parents require more of them.
- Fathers should aspire to be holy and righteous and blameless as they raise their children; the same should be true of pastor/elders.

V. Conclusion

- Effective gospel ministry boldly proclaims the gospel and does not shy away when shame and suffering are potential results.
- Gospel ministers have spiritual authority within the church.
- Gospel ministers are to be gentle with spiritual infants and encouragements to those who are maturing.
- Every Christian is to be an active member of a local church.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Why do we worship the Lord with singing?

Believers sing in churches because Christ has commanded us to sing.¹ Jesus Himself sang and taught His disciples to do the same.² We sing praises to God for what He has done and for who He is.³ We sing to affirm our belief and proclaim the truth to others.⁴ By singing, we align the affections of our hearts to the truth of God's Word.⁵ Singing is the Word centered focusing of our heart's overflow to praise and proclaim God's excellent ways toward us.

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

Sermon Summary

Paul reminds the Thessalonians of the way he intends to approach them. His aim is not to please man, but God. He didn't come to the Thessalonians flattering them, in a greedy manner, or glory-seeking. Rather, like a gentle mother and an encouraging father, Paul approaches the Thessalonians, calling them to walk in a manner worthy of God.

CG Discussion Questions

Why is Paul seeking to re-establish his credibility as a loving authority to the Thessalonians? Why does he want them to know that he loves them? Why does he want them to know he has authority over them?

What reasons did Paul use to prove he was seeking to please God rather than men? How does this establish his credibility?

How did Paul come to the Thessalonians like a mother and like a father to them? Mothers, what can you learn from Paul about mothering? Fathers, what can you learn from Paul about fathering?

How should we assess the life and practices of BCC and the pastor/elders according to the measures Paul uses in this passage? What does he consider proper conduct for a pastor/elder? What does Paul consider success?

FINANCIAL UPDATE

¹ Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

² Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26

³ Exodus 15:1-21; Psalm 103

⁴ Psalm 96:2

⁵ Psalm 45:1

September Giving

Week	Weekly Need	Last Week's Giving	Month to Date Need	Month to Date Giving	MTD Giving vs Need
Week 1	\$4,576.92	\$4,428.36	\$4,576.92	\$4,428.36	-\$148.56
Week 2	\$4,576.92		\$9,153.84		
Week 3	\$4,576.92		\$13,730.76		
Week 4	\$4,576.92		\$18,307.68		

Year to Date Need	Year to Date Giving	YTD Giving vs Need
\$160,192.20	\$152,442.14	-\$7,750.06



COMMUNITY GROUPS

At Buffalo City Church we see community as an non-negotiable element of the Christian life and so we regularly meet together in Community Groups. CGs meet Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at various times in the evening.

Questions about a CG? Want to get in touch with a CG leader? Send us an email at buffalocitychurch@gmail.com.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Want to know more about what's going on at BCC? Snap the QR code below to sign up for our Weekly Email Updates.



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