

Wednesday in the Word
Digging Deeper
April 21, 2021
1 Thessalonians 3:1-10
Seeking Him

Every time we study the bible we look for what God is telling us. Since His perfect, permanent Word is active and alive we appeal to His Holy Spirit to manifest the oracles of God on a regular basis. Psalm 18:30, Hebrews 4:12. Because we are horribly imperfect and fall tragically short of His glory, we are separated by a great gulf from the full knowledge and understanding of His will and way. Romans 3:23, Isaiah 55:8-9. As we are so very dependent on hearing clearly from the Author of Truth why does it often seem we stumble in misunderstanding. Might it be this? We fail to seek Him. We may dutifully read or even study a passage trying to pull meaning from the pages because we search for a personal message or a growing knowledge or to come out with some nugget of truth that we can apply to life, be it ours or someone else's. We may wrongfully view the bible as a self help book or a philosophy. Seeking God's Word or His Wisdom may seem to be a proper endeavor but will fall short of the intent of the Lord. Our Great Creator seeks first and foremost our relationship. He desires chiefly to save us from sin to reconcile us to Himself. Luke 15:3-10. Obviously a restored relationship with His creation, broken with sin, is a joy for Him. Once we are saved and adopted into His Family of Fellowship, He creates within us a desire to know Him better and beyond that, to purely seek Him. 1 Chronicles 16:11, Proverbs 8:17, Jeremiah 29:13. Here we find the core of the study of the Word of God. Do we seek the gift or the Giver? Deuteronomy 4:29.

Starting back in 1 Thessalonians 2:17-20 we can see the great love and desire for fellowship between Paul and his companions and the folks in Thessalonica. He claimed that those deeply loved people were his joy and crown. Do you feel that way about any brother or sister in Christ? He led many of them to Jesus or had his hand in assisting in their salvation. We must lead folks to Christ so we too can experience this love. Mark 16:15-16. We must also help them up and lead them back when they fall. James 5:19-20. In 3:1-6 Paul explains how he suffered persecution and how that would negatively affect his beloved. We don't want our loved ones to see us suffer. We wish to protect and encourage them. Paul sent Timothy for this purpose. The Thessalonian's faith was heavy on his heart. This is Godly love. It should be extended to all. Are there some you know who are marginalized, ignored or cast out? They need love. You have it to give. God loves us in that way. John 3:16. Verses 7 and 8 may be a key to understanding God's desire to fellowship with us and our yearning for more of Him. As we struggle against evil, rejection and hurt we find our healing in the great faith displayed by others. That faith sends comfort, physical aid, tender mercy and deep concern. 2 Corinthians 1:3-6. This will strengthen us to continue on. Finally in our love for others we find joy for us and them and we praise God with Thanksgiving as we see growth and integrity forming through us all. 1 Peter 4:8. What is our Creator telling us? To seek deeper and more meaningful relationships with other believers and with our Wonderful Father in Heaven. Here is found the greatest fulfillment and the richest joy. Be someone's joy and crown. Love...