

# Sermon Discussion Guide

*Paul's Example of Christian Love*

1 Thessalonians 3:6–13

## Lives bound up together (6–9)

- What effect did Timothy's report about the Thessalonians have on Paul? (see verses 7,8,9)
- What are some of the ways God has used fellow believers to encourage and strengthen your faith? (see also Eph. 4:15; Heb. 3:13)
- Discuss the idea that the church is more than a preaching station.
  - What are some of the metaphors the New Testament uses to describe the church?
- What are some of the ways you can continue to develop Christ-centered relationships with fellow believers at Grace Bible Church?

## Praying for each other (10–13)

- Why does Paul's prayer in verses 11 through 13 sound so different from the way we often pray?
- Do you think about prayer for others as a way of loving them? If not, how could viewing prayer this way change how you pray and what you pray for others?
- Paul's prayers in the New Testament provide an excellent model of how to pray for others. Review his prayers and think about how you can begin praying for others the way Paul does (see Eph. 1:15–23; 3:14–21; Phil. 1:9–11; Col. 1:9–14; 1 Thess. 3:11–13).