

The Book of 1 Thessalonians

“Life in Christ
until HE Returns”

1 Thessalonians 2: 17-20

“Motivations for Discipleship”



1 Thessalonians 2:17–20 (NKJV)

17 But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. 18 Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? 20 For you are our glory and joy.



Outline:

- 1. The Desired Response of Discipleship (review)**
- 2. The Conditions Conducive to Discipleship**
- 3. The Promised Reward of Discipleship**



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Review:

- 1. Receiving the Word of God**
- 2. Imitating Godly Heritage**
- 3. Persevering Persecution**



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The Conditions Conducive to Discipleship:

1. Personal Contact

2. Eternal Focus



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Acts 17:5–10 (NKJV)

5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, “These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. 7 Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus.” 8 And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. 9 So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. 10 Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.

Application:



- Is it possible to disciple at a distance?
- Personal, face-to-face contact is best.
- Satan's goal is to hinder discipleship.

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Application:



- What do our disciples mean to us?
- Is Discipleship an eternal enterprise?
- How are we doing?
 - Individually?
 - Corporately?

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Revelation 4:6–11 (NKJV)

6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!” 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”



Application:

- What does this passage teach us?
- What areas need improvement in our lives?
- Does this passage give us a solution?
- Are there things I must practice now?

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