

SUCCESSFUL SERVANTS

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Five keys to serving successfully...

I. BOLDLY PREACH THE _____ OF GOD.

A. Let your _____ shine!

1 Thessalonians 2:1-2 You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure.

B. Be bold in spite of _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:2 NKJV 2 But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.

II. LIVE LIVES THAT _____ GOD.

A. Serve with pure _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:3 For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you.

B. Speak the pure _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.

C. Seek a pure _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:5-6b You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. 6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else.

III. LOVE THE _____ OF GOD.

A. Nurture like a _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:6b-7 As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, 7 but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.

8 We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. **9** Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. **10** You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

B. Encourage like a _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:11 For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, **12** encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

IV. BELIEVE THE _____ OF GOD.

A. Receive it as from _____ not _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

V. ENDURE _____ FOR GOD.

A. Sometimes suffering is God's _____.

1 Thessalonians 2:14 For you, brothers, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews, **15a** who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out.

B. Some will _____ our message.

1 Thessalonians 2:15b They displease God and are hostile to all men **16** in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last.

Q: What will you do in next three weeks to _____ the _____?