

# sermon notes

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March 20, 2022 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship  
Kingdom Called | "How Do We Represent Christ?" | 1 Thess 2:1-8

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## Four necessities for representing Christ in this world:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1-2)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (2:3-5)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (2:6-7)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (2:8)

## Questions for further application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8. How was Paul shamefully treated in Philippi (1 Thess 2:2; Acts 16:11-40)? Did that shameful treatment keep him from ministering to the Thessalonians? How did Paul demonstrate "thick skin" and "gospel boldness" in the midst of conflict? What does "gospel boldness" look like for us in our day? Is there opposition in our day to the gospel?

If we are going to represent Christ in our world, why do we need to have pure motives? What are some false motives that Paul lists in verses 3-5? What was Paul's ultimate motive according to verse 4? In what ways do you strive to please God in life and ministry? In what ways do you fail to do that? Does fear of man or the desire to please man ever trump your desire to please God? If so, how do you correct that?

### GET PERSONAL

Do you struggle at times with pleasing men over pleasing God? How might a church or an individual err in pleasing men instead of pleasing God? How might one use "flattery" (2:6) to manipulate people or compromise the gospel?

How did Paul demonstrate gentleness and humility among the Thessalonians? Are gentleness and boldness mutually exclusive? Can we be courageous and humble at the same time? In your Christian walk, are you better at demonstrating boldness or gentleness? If you answer gentleness, how might you demonstrate greater boldness for Jesus? If you answer boldness, how might you demonstrate greater gentleness for Jesus?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Paul makes several references to the gospel and its impact on our lives in 1 Thessalonians 2. Answer this question as succinctly as you can: What is the gospel? Try to summarize the essence of the gospel in one minute. How would you share this with another person in a short conversation? If we believe the gospel, how should that affect our lives and our relationships with other people?

### ADVANCED QUESTION

Read Acts 16:11-40. If you were beaten and imprisoned for Christ, do you think you would be worshipping God like Paul and Silas did? What would you be thinking, if you were one of the prisoners watching Paul and Silas pray and sing after being beaten? What does this passage teach us about joy in the midst of suffering? Do you find it hard to worship when you are going through a trial? In light of this passage, what are you going to do differently the next time you go through a significant trial?