



## “He Said, God Said”

September 13, 2020

**1 Thessalonians 2:13-16**

**Part 4 of “Build to Last”**

Last week: 1 Thess 2:1-12

2:13, “And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God... you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God.”

**And we also thank God constantly for this:**

**1. Planted. (2:13)**

- a. That when you \_\_\_\_\_ the word of God...
- b. You \_\_\_\_\_ it.

“The word of man does not become the word of God because it is \_\_\_\_\_. We \_\_\_\_\_ it because it is the word of God.”

1 Cor. 2:14

- c. Not as the word of \_\_\_\_\_ but as what it \_\_\_\_\_ is, the word of God...
- d. Which is at \_\_\_\_\_ in you \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Tim. 3:16-17, All Scripture is \_\_\_\_\_ out by God and \_\_\_\_\_ for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, \_\_\_\_\_ for every good work.

- e. Note: none of this gratitude is pointed back to \_\_\_\_\_.

"We thank GOD, you received the word of GOD and it's the word of GOD which is at work..."

## 2. Harvested. (14-16)

- a. 14, "For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus..."

1:6-7, And you became \_\_\_\_\_ of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, **with the \_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit**, so that you became an \_\_\_\_\_ to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

## **For Family Discussion**

What place does God's word have in your daily and weekly rhythms? Do you have personal Bible study time, and family Bible study? *(Discuss it for each member of your family, individually, and then as a unit.)*

What would you like to change about your Bible study habits, or is it working for you?

What obstacles keep you from regular time in God's word? *(Again, this might be best discussed as individuals and then as a unit.)*

What do you think would be the result of making God's word more of a priority? *(Put another way, if you planted more of God's word in your life, what might be the harvest?)*

## **Discussion Questions**

Read 1 and 2 Thessalonians again. Having now hopefully been through it a few times, what verses or blocks of verses stand out? What are you learning from Paul's letters?

In your own words, what's the difference between the church "receiving" the apostles' teaching and "accepting" it as the word of God?

Clearly there's a gap between accepting Paul's teaching as good, moral, ethical human teaching and accepting the actual word of God. How might that show during their persecution and suffering? What does the word of God provide in suffering that "good, moral, ethical human teaching" doesn't?

In your own words, what is Paul actually thankful for in verse 13? And what do we have to be thankful for, pertaining to God's word and its effect on our lives?

Identify one specific example of God's word and prayer affecting how you lived this week, something you said or a decision you made that might have been different if it was left up to you.

**This Week:** Schedule time to read the Bible every day on your own, and schedule time to read the Bible with your whole family at least once. It could be over a meal, or before bedtime, but find enough time to read and discuss it without feeling rushed, enough time to ask and find answers for questions about the passage you read.

### **Pray Together**

*Lord, Thank you for your word. Thank you that it never changes, that we can rely on it every day, for everything. Thank you for hearing our prayers and answering us with your word. God, please help me to make your word more of a priority in my life. Show me the times in my schedule that could be dedicated to studying your word and knowing you better. Show me opportunities to share it with other people, in my daily life and give me the courage to do that. Thank you for providing your word as a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Help me hide your words in my heart, to both avoid sin and point others to you. In Jesus name, Amen.*