

sermon notes

**Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder
1 Thessalonians 1:2-3
January 14, 2024**

introduction: A new church was started in Thessalonica (Acts 17:2-3). Opposition drove Paul out of town (Acts 17:5-9). He tried to get back and visit the new believers in Thessalonica, but was unable to do so (1 Thessalonians 2:18). But God used Paul to write two letters to them.

1. Devote yourself to _____praying_____ for other believers (1 Thessalonians 1:2).

supporting Scripture: Acts 2:42

2. Develop and put into _____practice_____ these basic elements of the Christian life (1 Thessalonians 1:3):

1) work of _____faith_____ — work produced by faith

supporting Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8-10
Matthew 5:16
Colossians 3:23

2) labor of _____love_____ — serving the Lord because you love Him and meeting the needs of other people because you love them

supporting Scriptures: Genesis 29:20
Acts 9:6
Hebrews 6:10
1 Corinthians 15:58

3) patience (endurance) of _____hope_____ in our Lord Jesus Christ — hope in Jesus personally and hope in His promise of His return

supporting Scriptures: Colossians 1:27
Romans 15:13
1 Thessalonians 4:16-18
2 Peter 1:5-8