

1 Thessalonians Chapter 2

***1 Thessalonians 2: 1-6 ESV** 1 For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain. 2 But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict. 3 For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, 4 but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so **we speak, not to please man, but to please God** who tests our hearts. 5 For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. 6 Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ.*

Five Qualities of an Authentic Leader

A GOD PLEASER, NOT A MAN PLEASER. (v.1-6)

Qualities of God Pleasing Leaders:

- **Boldness in the midst of conflict!** – they won't compromise or back down to a threat. *2 But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.*

- **Their motives are pure and their appeal is free from manipulation.**

3 For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive.

5 HOL ... “we never used flattering speech, as you know, or had greedy motives —God is our witness”

- **They live to glorify God and never seek glory from man.**

6 NASV “... nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority.”

1 Cor 9:14 NIV the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.

1 Thess 1:9 ESV For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

GENTLE AS A MOTHER, NOT HARSH LIKE A RULER.

vv. 7-8 ESV But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. 8 So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

8 NIV Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

LEADS LIKE A FATHER, NOT IN AN EGOTISTICAL MANNER.

v. 11-12 NIV 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.

LOVES LIKE A BROTHER, NOT LIKE A STRANGER.

v. 17-18 NIV *But, brothers and sisters, when we were orphaned by being separated from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. 18 For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan blocked our way.*

CELEBRATES GOD’S WORK IN OTHERS, NOT IN THEMSELVES.

v. 19-20 ESV *For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our **Lord Jesus at his coming**? Is it not you? 20 For you are our glory and joy.*

****Note:** Every chapter in 1 Thessalonians ends with a reference to the coming of the Lord Jesus.

The **KEY VERSE** to Chapter 2 is verse 13 NASV *For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it **not as the word of men**, but for what it really is, **the word of God**, which also **performs its work in you** who believe.*

*Paul says it is the Word that has performed the work. Not his words but **THE WORD...** the Living Word. That is what true leaders find their joy in!*
