

# 1 THESSALONIANS



A CHURCH WORTH IMITATING

A pair of hands is shown clasped together in a prayerful gesture, with the fingers of the right hand resting on the palm of the left hand. The hands are positioned centrally, with the text overlaid on them. The background is plain white.

The Nature of

1 Thessalonians 1

Thanksgiving

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy: To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to you and peace. We always thank God for all of you, remembering you constantly in our prayers. We recall, in the presence of our God and Father, your work of faith, £ labor of love, and endurance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, knowing your election,

brothers loved by God. For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, in the Holy Spirit, and with much assurance. You know what kind of men we were among you for your benefit, and you became imitators of us and of the Lord when, in spite of severe persecution, you welcomed the message with the joy from the Holy Spirit.

As a result, you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. For the Lord's message rang out from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place that your faith in God has gone out, so we don't need to say anything. For they themselves report about us what kind of reception we had from you: how you turned to God from idols

serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

A pair of hands is shown clasped together in a prayerful gesture, with the fingers interlaced. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the left hand slightly behind the right. The skin tone is light. The background is plain white. Overlaid on the image is text in a stylized, pink, outlined font. The text is arranged in three lines: 'The Nature of' at the top, '1 Thessalonians 1' in the middle, and 'Thanksgiving' at the bottom.

The Nature of

1 Thessalonians 1

Thanksgiving

# **The Subject of Thanksgiving: the God who works through people**

**Thanks to God for His plan**

**Thanks to God for His presence (v.3)**

**Thanks to God for His people (v.3)**

- 1. Their work of faith**
- 2. Their labor of love**
- 3. Their Endurance of hope**

# **The Chronology of Thanksgiving: “We recall”**

**Sometimes our recall is not based upon long-term memory**

**Sometimes our recall is not based upon the purpose of events**

# **The Source of Thanksgiving: “Our Gospel”**

**It comes in word (v.5)**

**It comes in power (v.5)**

**It comes as an example (v.7)**

# **The Joy of Thanksgiving: The Victory of God's people**

**People transformed- "you became an  
example" (v.7)**

**The message rang out (v.8)**

**The power of a reformed reputation (v.8-10)**

# **What About You?**

**How good is your recall?**

**Could Paul boast in you?**