

**THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST
(1 Thessalonians 1:6-8)**

I. PAUL'S INTRODUCTION AND SALUATION (1:1)

II. PAUL'S COMMENDATION CONCERNING THE THESSALONIANS (1:2-10)

A. His THANKSGIVING for them (1:2).... *"we give thanksalways for you all"*

B. His REMEMBRANCE of them (1:3-4a)... *"remembering with out ceasing..."*

C. His UNDERSTANDING of their Election (1:4b)

- How did their election come about? (1:5) ... through the preaching of what Paul called
"_____"
- Why was it referred to this way?
- What did we note about their preaching of it last time?

D. The MANIFESTATION of their _____ to the Gospel (1:6-8)

1. They became _____ of those who brought this _____ message (1:6)

"became" (ginomai)

"followers" (mimetes)

a. Who did they follow or imitate?

b. The very *reason* they followed these men and the Lord was because they _____
the life changing _____ from them!

- What is the *danger* in this?

- The biblical plan & order of **modeling** and **following** is as follows:

1) With the _____ as the model, the mature Christian leader needs to recognize they have a vital role and responsibility to _____ the character of Christ to those they lead and minister to. (1 Tim.4:12-16)

2) Like Paul, spiritual leaders may encourage others to follow them, as they follow _____ . (1 Cor. 11:1)

3) The *ultimate goal* of any Spirit led leader is to get people to follow _____ Himself. (Eph. 5:1-2, 8)

- the Thessalonians received this message... in much _____
- they also received this message with ... the _____ of the _____

- What does all this mean?

- This means any Christian can experience the “joy” the _____ produces regardless of the circumstances or difficulties, when you are focused on & abiding in _____ .

2. They became _____ to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe a (1:7)

3. They became effective _____ because from them the _____ sounded forth to others in _____ their faith toward God went (1:8)

- What does the “*Word of the Lord*” refer to?

- How was their witness set forth?

- What does this mean?

- What was the extent of their witness?

- What did this say about them?

- What does all this mean to you?