

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13
“Is No News Really Good News?”

1. The Timothy Report 6, 7

A. Good News of your faith and love

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, -Ephesians 1:15-16 ESV

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.
-Philemon 1:4-7 ESV

B. Still on Good Terms

C. Good News makes a difference 7

2. We Can Take a Deep Breath 8-10

A. Now We Live 8

2 Corinthians 7:3 I do not say this to condemn you, for I said before that you are in our hearts, to die together and to live together. 4 I am acting with great boldness toward you; I have great pride in you; I am filled with comfort. In all our affliction, I am overflowing with joy. 5 For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. 6 But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, 7 and not only by his coming but also by the comfort with which he was comforted by you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more.

B. Inadequate Thanksgiving 9

What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?
-Psalm 116:12 ESV

C. Praying for you (night and day) 10a

D. Supply what is lacking in your faith 10b

3. Blessing 11-13

A. God Direct our way to you 11

B. Increase in Love 12

C. Established in Holiness at the coming of Jesus 13

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”
-1 Corinthians 1:30-31 ESV

You shall sanctify him, for he offers the bread of your God. He shall be holy to you, for I, the Lord, who sanctify you, am holy.
-Leviticus 21:8 ESV

“The Bible teaches three tenses of salvation:

I have been saved: Justification
I am being saved: Sanctification
I will be saved: Glorification

Sanctification means separation

separation from sin: “But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’”
1 Peter 1:15-16.

Separation to God: “(He) has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father...” Revelation 1:6.

We read in John 1:29, 33 that Jesus is “the one who is taking away the sin of the world...” “the one who is baptizing with the Holy Spirit” -John Soper

Reflection:

1. *Is holiness something that is established in your life? Have you allowed Jesus to sanctify you?*
2. *How is your faith and love increasing?*