

Timothy's Encouraging Report—1 Thessalonians 3:6–13

Topics: Encouragement, Faith, Love, Prayer, Second Coming

Open It

1. If you could make a surprise visit to a dear friend or relative, whom would you select?
2. How can you express love to someone when you can't see or talk to the person?

1 Thessalonians 3:6–13 (ESV)

⁶But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you—

⁷for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith.

⁸For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord.

⁹For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God,

¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you,

¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,

¹³so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Explore It

3. How had Paul's work among the Thessalonians progressed during his absence? (3:6–7)
4. How were the Thessalonians an encouragement to Paul? (3:7–9)
5. Why did Paul say, "for now we live"? (3:8)
6. For what did Paul pray concerning the Thessalonians, and how did he pray? (3:10)
7. When did Paul pray? (3:10)
8. What did Paul pray would grow and prosper among the Thessalonians? (3:11–13)
9. How should we prepare for Christ's return to earth? (3:13)

Get It

10. What are the characteristics of someone who is standing firm in the Lord?
11. How does a person's love for others increase?

Apply It

12. What preparations can you make this week to get ready for Christ's return?