

# Empowering Confidence In Others

## I Thessalonians 3:1–12

- A Paradigm shift calls into question every piece of conventional wisdom to which we've previously held.
- The Reformers reminded us that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

- Ministry is not the property of the ordained clergy, but ministry belongs to the people.
- The first obstacle is pastors.
- Ordinary people of the church have also stood in the way as well.

## 1. Meeting Needs – 3:1—5

- The Greek word Paul uses here is where we get our English word synergy.
- The original word here is *sunergos* (fellow worker, partner, co-worker).
- The word “strengthen” is a building term that means to cause a structure to become more secure.

- The word “encourage” here basically describes a coach who comes alongside a person to help them take the next step.
- He was a builder, retrofitting the newfound faith of the Thessalonians with scaffolding to make it strong.
- He was a coach, encouraging the Thessalonians to keep on the track.

- He was a *troubleshooter*, helping the Thessalonians deal with the suffering that had come upon them.
- He was a *teacher*, reminding them of the things Paul had already taught them.
- And he was a *link* between Paul and the Thessalonians.

- Empowering members with confidence to minister is necessary for us to meet the ***diverse*** needs of people.

## 2. Knowing What God is Doing - 3:6-9

- What God is doing in the lives of the Thessalonians rejuvenates Paul's will to minister - it breathes life into his efforts.
- Empowering members with confidence to minister is necessary for us to know what God is doing in people's lives.

### 3. Focusing Our Efforts - 3:10–12

- The ministry of Timothy enabled Paul to pray intelligently and to know where to focus his efforts with the Thessalonian Christians.
- **Empowering members for ministry is necessary for us to focus our efforts.**



**Empowering others for ministry is the only way to meet the diverse needs of people, to know what God is doing in people's lives, and to know how to focus our efforts.**