

Walk the Talk-
I Thessalonians 2:1-12

We desire to be a center point for our community. To provide a place where we can **experience** a life-changing God, worship God, and get equipped to **be** the change that we long to see.

Belonging

God never intended for us to go through life alone. We were created for relationship. When we experience life surrounded by others who share our love for God, we'll not only build lasting friendships, but we'll come to realize that we *belong* to a family... we're home.

Believing

The love of God changes lives. No matter who you are or where you've come from, the message of Jesus is all about God's love for you. As we grow in what we *believe*, we connect to God through Bible teaching, prayer, and worship, and we will experience the transforming power of Christ's love in our lives.

Becoming

We hope that you will find a place here to discover God again or maybe for the very first time. A place where you can unlock and pursue the dreams that God has for you and *become* all that HE has for you, to reach beyond the ordinary and discover the Life that you desire is out there just waiting to be captured.

1. Knowing Our Message - 1–2

- The word failure here means, “empty of results”.
- We can effectively share our confidence in Christ with others by making sure we know our message.

2. Modeling Integrity - 2:2–6a

a. He's talking about delivering an untrue message.

b. Another credibility killer mentioned in v. 3 is a hidden agenda.

c. The word for "trick" here was originally a fishing term that described using a lure to entice fish to bite a hook.

d. Skipping v. 4 for the moment, in v. 5 Paul mentions *insincerity* as a credibility killer.

- A flatterer is someone who uses smooth words to gain an *advantage*.

e. Also in v. 5 he mentions the credibility killer of *greed*.

- f. Then in the first part of v. 6 Paul talks about the credibility killer of saying what people want to hear.
- When we allow public-opinion to determine our message, that undermines our credibility.
 - The word "approved" here was sometimes used to describe someone who was declared fit to run for public office.

- The word for “entrust” here is the same word translated “have faith” and “believe” throughout the rest of the New Testament.
- We can effectively share our confidence in Christ with others by modeling integrity.

3. Gentle *Respect* – 2:6b--9

- This is describing a relationship of transparency and *authenticity* with those around us.
- **We can effectively share our confidence in Christ with others by treating our un-churched friends with gentle respect.**

4. Inviting to **Respond** – 2:10--12

- The word “encouraging” has the idea of coming **alongside** a person and helping them take the next step.
- The word for “comforting” means to **console** someone who is losing heart and feels like giving up.

- The word “urging” means, to emphatically state an opinion or a *desire*.

- **We can effectively share our confidence in Christ with others by inviting our un-churched friends to respond.**