



5/7/23

“So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. <sup>2</sup>We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God’s service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, <sup>3</sup>so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. <sup>4</sup>In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. <sup>5</sup>For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain.

<sup>6</sup>But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. <sup>7</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith. <sup>8</sup>For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. <sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup>May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup>May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.” 1 Thessalonians 3 (NIV)

**We endure in a hostile culture when we develop a strong \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ love for \_\_\_\_\_.**

**How to strengthen your faith:**

Know His \_\_\_\_\_

Know His \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:20, Isaiah 40:31)

**How to spill your love on those around you:**

**Don’t \_\_\_\_\_ non-Christians for \_\_\_\_\_ like non-Christians.**

*“What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?” 1 Corinthians 5:12 (NIV ’84)*

**Earn the opportunity to make a \_\_\_\_\_, by making a \_\_\_\_\_.**

<sup>14</sup> *“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” <sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” Matthew 5:14-17 (NIV ’84)*

*“Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always **full of grace, seasoned with salt**, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” Colossians 4:5-6 (NIV ’84)*

*“For in Christ Jesus the only thing that counts is **faith expressing itself through love.**” Galatians 5:6 (NIV ’84)*