

Waiting for the Son (1 Thessalonians)
Pt 2 - The Beginning and Shape of the Christian Life
Neil Foster

Bible Reading

1 Thessalonians 1 (NIV)

1 Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace and peace to you.

²We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

⁷And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Talk Outline

The beginning of the Christian life

-God's love

-God's choice

-the arrival of the gospel

-the life of the messenger

-the welcoming of the gospel

-power, Holy Spirit, conviction

-imitation of the messenger

-suffering, joy, Holy Spirit

The shape of the Christian life

-faith that works

-turning to God

-from idols

-love that labours

-serving the living and true God

-hope that endures

-waiting for his Son from heaven