



**HATFIELD
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

LIFE GROUP GUIDELINE TERM 4 WEEK 5

16 November 2017

Faith to flourish: Following freely

'But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.'

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NKJV)

Icebreaker

Have you ever led somebody to the Lord outside of the church setup, for example at work or at the gym? Share your experience with the group.

Introduction

As the body of the Lord Jesus Christ we are the gathered church on Sundays and the scattered church wherever we go throughout the week. We have been entrusted by God to share the good news of the Gospel and Paul gives us four values to be effective in sharing it with people in our spheres of influence. The Gospel must be shared with boldness, even if we have opposition and are persecuted. Furthermore, we need to share the Good News wholeheartedly and with gentleness; from a position of humility. In all of this, we must live blameless lives to prevent being an obstacle when bringing the message of the Gospel across.

Discussion

- Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12. Take turns to read and use at least two different translations of the Bible. Can you identify the above mentioned values in this passage of Scripture?
- Discuss this statement: 'Boldness is our willingness to venture out and do the right thing at the right time, regardless of the barriers or fears we may encounter'. Do you lack boldness to share the Gospel at every opportunity? How can you overcome this?
- According to Paul the true hallmark of a leader is gentleness. What is the level of gentleness we should aspire to (Verses 5-8)? Are you gentle with people at work and do you find ways to show care?

- Can you wholeheartedly love the people at work, in class, at gym, etc.? Can you be genuine, and without pretense when you share Jesus with them? Does your profile picture depict what you currently look like (or is it still from five years ago)?
- Paul writes in verse 10 of this passage that he behaved blamelessly. How does this challenge you? What is the Holy Spirit's role in this?

Prayer

- Ask the Lord to make you sensitive to see every opportunity the Holy Spirit presents to share the Gospel with someone in your spheres of influence.
- Pray and ask the Lord to empower you to grow in each of these values daily, especially in the ones you struggle with the most.
- Pray for the salvation of the people you work or study with.