

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Name: _____

build homework

DUE: January 11, 2020

Before you begin your homework, take some time to pray and direct your heart and mind towards God and His Word. Ask God for help in submitting your life and thoughts to His Word that you might draw near to Him in this time. Ask Him to increase your desire to know and love and obey Him.

LOOKING BACK...

Look back at your notes from December 7 (D3 - Paul's Gospel Ministry, 1 Thessalonians 1:4-2:12) and remind yourself of the characteristics of true gospel ministry.

What are some things that impressed you about the Christian converts in Thessalonica? Were there any parts of that lesson that are a challenge to you as you consider ministering with the gospel in your current season of life?

It results in fearless joyful, exemplary imitators

How often do you find joy in your status as a child of God? What (or whom) do you find yourself imitating most often?

It results in a desire for God above all else

How often do you stop and think about the return of Jesus into this world? The Christian will rule together with Jesus in that age (Matthew 19:27, 28). How does this truth affect your desire to consistently draw near to Him today?

It concerns itself with God's approval alone

As you think about yourself as a messenger of the gospel, do you ever find yourself being influenced by the opinion of man? What truths from this passage inform your thinking in that area?

It knows how to be gentle

Is the loss of gentleness a challenge for you when you consider the mindset of the lost around you? How are you helped by the reminder that every believer used to be that same kind of person themselves (Ephesians 2:1-3)?

It requires excellent behavior from all

How does the truth that you are a messenger of God influence your choice of entertainment and involvement with social media? Do you notice your speech (or your posts) becoming more winsome as you continue to follow Christ?

LOOKING DAY BY DAY . . .

Take a few minutes to reflect on your devotional time alone with the Lord in the last month. Were there any principles from God's Word that you have applied to your life? Have you learned something new about Jesus - something that has grown your affections for him?

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Spend a few minutes thinking through WHY you will be meeting alone with the Lord during the Christmas season. Spend time in prayer agreeing with the Lord that time spent alone with Him is central to His plan for your sanctification. Ask the Lord to continue to grow you in your trust in His design for your sanctification.