

With The Master In View of His Return
Lesson 5 - The Maternal Ministry of the Apostle Paul - 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9

1. (a) Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9 and list all of the ways in which Paul ministered to the Thessalonians. (b) To whom does he compare the way they (Paul, Silvanus and Timothy) ministered? (c) Why do you think it is important that we minister to others in this way? (d) In what ways do you see mothers ministering to their children in the way Paul describes? (For example: *gentle*-being patient with a sick child; *affectionate*-hugs, kisses, cuddling when hurt or sick) (e) Now, take those things you have written down and how they would flesh out in ministry to others. (For example-*gentle*-being patient with a sick child=*gentle* when others in the body are hurting)

2. (a) According to Deuteronomy 32:9-12, Ruth 2:12 and Matthew 23:37-39, who else wants to minister in a maternal way and to whom do they want to minister to? (b) What can you learn from these passages as you minister to others?

3. Memorize 1 Thessalonians 2:7.

4. Paul mentions that he has great affection for the church at Thessalonica which compels him to do certain things for them (1 Thessalonians 2:7-9). (a) According to the following passages, what other churches did Paul have deep affection for and what things did he do because of his love for them? Romans 9:1-5; 2 Corinthians 6:11-18; Galatians 4:19-21; Philippians 1:8-11; Colossians 1:24-2:2. (b) What principles can you learn for your own life as you think about those who are dear to you to whom the Lord has given you opportunity to minister to?

5. (a) Does your love for others compel you to share the gospel with them as it did Paul? If not, why? (b) What does the Scripture say to those who are not sharing the gospel with others? See Mark 8:38; Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 9:16.

6. What qualities in the life of your Mother have impacted you the most? How could you use those qualities as you minister to others?

7. After studying how Paul ministered to the church at Thessalonica, what area(s) do you fall short in? Put your need in the form of a prayer request.