

Strengthening Hearts - #2 – The Church Lives
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Just as Jesus lives, so does and will the church in every age and in every situation.

The Word of God for us to consider today is from Paul's letter to the **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**:

The _____ is going to be _____.

The Mount is going to be okay. We are going to be okay because it is not up to _____ of us, but it is up to _____ of us.

The Mount is going to be okay! We are going to be okay because it is not up to _____ of us, but it is all up to _____.

The Mount is going to be _____ than okay because of her _____ and because of her _____.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).

Connect Group Talk-it-Over:

- How have you seen God's hand at work during these days?

- How have you seen the hand of God's people during these days? Share specifics.

In 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Paul identifies six Characteristics of the Thessalonian church. Work through the statements three times answering the following questions:

- 1) How do you see these characteristics in the text;
- 2) Praise God for where he is doing that at the Mount;
- 3) Identify areas in which we might grow as individuals and as a church.

- They were rooted in God's grace, love and election (v 2-4).

- They were committed to Jesus Christ alone (v 6).

- They were empowered by the Holy Spirit (v 5-7).

- They were bearing witness to the gospel with their lives and their lips (v 8).

- They were characterized by faith, hope, and love (v 3).

- They were different from other religions (v 9-10).

- What one thing will you do this week to "serve the true and living God?" Share your ideas with the group. (Bring back a report next week about how it went.)