SCC Small Group Discussion Influencer – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13 Derived from a sermon on June 2, 2024 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

Who was the best teacher you had in school? What made him/her so good?

Talk about a person who had a big influence on you personally?

Searching the Scriptures:

- A. Verses 1-4 gives us insight into Paul's motive for ministry and his approach to sharing the gospel. What can we learn from Paul's example? What kind of attitudes should we have?
- B. What "rights" did Paul give up? Do you think pastors and missionaries should give up those same rights today, or were these special circumstances for a skeptical audience who needed to see something different?

C. In what ways were the believers in Thessalonica built up by these traveling apostles?

D. What do you think Paul meant when he said "we shared God's good news and also our own lives"?

E. Besides your actual children, for whom do you feel a special spiritual affection and concern (like a mother or father)? What caused you to start investing in them? Has anyone ever been a "spiritual parent" to you?

F. What does this passage tell us about how we might serve and minister to our own children or other close relatives we care about?

G. How did receiving Paul's message as the word of God (verse 13) help these believers through the inevitable persecution they faced?

Application of Scripture:

A. Who comes to mind as a person you might help with their spiritual growth?

B. Think of the characteristics of a faithful Christian given in this passage. Which do you seem to possess? Which do you want to develop?