

SCC Small Group Discussion
Wise Investments – 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13
Derived from a sermon on June 9, 2024 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

Think of a time when you have been separated from a Christian friend or family member and not heard a word of how that person was doing. How did you feel?

Who is a person you are “investing in”? In what way?

Searching the Scriptures:

- A. How do you interpret Paul’s statement that the Thessalonians would be his hope, joy and crown when Jesus returns? What does this tell you about “rewards” in heaven?
- B. How do you think it might have affected the Thessalonians to have Paul tell them these words in the midst of their struggles?

One of the main reasons that Paul wrote the letter to the Thessalonians was to respond to Timothy’s report about the church there (since Paul could not go personally himself).

- C. What were the reasons that Paul sent Timothy there in the first place?

- D. Have you ever had a “Timothy” come to you when you needed this kind of support? How did it make you feel valued?
- E. If someone were to tell you that God promises a trouble free life to those who are Christians, how would you respond?
- F. How have you seen suffering or temptation get people off track and make God’s work seem useless. Has that been something rare in your experience or have you encountered it a lot?
- G. What are the three things Paul asked for in 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13, and why were they relevant in light of what they were dealing with?

Application of Scripture:

- A. Who in your life is your “proud reward and crown” who gives you hope and joy? Why?
- B. Tell about a time you got “new life” from an encouraging report about someone you have been deeply concerned about.