**1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

1 ﻿For you yourselves know, brethren,

that our coming to you was not in vain,

 2 but ……….. we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition.

……. after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philipp, as you know,……

or by way of deceit;

 4 but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel,

so we speak,

not as pleasing men,

but God who examines our hearts.

5 For we never came with

flattering speech,

as you know,

nor with a pretext for greed

—God is witness—

 6 nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others,

even though as apostles of Christ

we might have asserted our authority.

 7 But we proved to be gentle among you,

as a nursing mother ﻿tenderly cares for her own children.

8 Having so fond an affection for you,

we were well-pleased to impart to you

not only the gospel of God

but also our own lives,

because you had become very dear to us.

 9 ﻿For you recall, brethren,

our labor and hardship,

how working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you,

we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

 10 You are witnesses, and so is God,

how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly

we behaved toward you believers;

 11 just as you know how we

were exhorting

and encouraging

and imploring each one of you

as a father would his own children,

 12 so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God

who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

**Text’s Intent (Then):** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12, Paul defends His ministry by reminding the Thessalonians of his unwavering faithfulness in shepherding them through preaching the Word of God and discipling them through His own life despite the threat of persecution.

**Timeless Truth (Now):** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 displays a pattern of an unwavering, faithful ministry focused on honoring God through proclaiming His Word and shepherding His people through “life on life” discipleship.

**Principle:** Our lives should center on boldly sharing the gospel and encouraging one another to live like our savior.

**Sermons Intent** (Plural noun Proposition aiming the Timeless Truth)

***2 Patterns of a Faithful God-Honoring Ministry***

 1. Courageous preaching founded on God’s Word. (vv. 1-7)

 2. Humble Shepherding focused on “life on life” discipleship. (vv. 8-12)