

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Thessalonians 2:14-16

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea,
for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen,
even as they did from the Jews,
15 who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets,
and drove us out.
They are not pleasing to God,
but hostile to all men,
16 hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles
so that they may be saved;
with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins.
But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.

1. What is the connection between v. 13 and v. 14?
2. How does Paul address his readers in v. 14? Why does he address them in this way here?
3. What response to the gospel does Paul highlight in the first clause of v. 14?

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4. How does Paul describe the churches of v. 14? How does this description inform your overall view of the local church?
5. How does Paul modify or further explain how or why they became imitators?
6. How is enduring suffering a reflection of a true reception of the Word of God?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Thess 2:14-16 again.

7. Look at Acts 17:1-10. Describe the sufferings of the Thessalonians when they received the Word.
8. Look at Acts 4:3, 18, 21, 5:17-18, 40, 6:11-14, 7:57-8:3, 9:1-2, 23-25, and 12:1-5. Describe the sufferings of the churches in Judea when they received the Word.

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9. How does Paul describe the parallels between the way the Thessalonians received the Word and how the churches in Judea received the Word?
10. What did the unbelieving Jews do to Jesus according to v. 15?
11. What did they do to the prophets? (v. 15)
12. What did they do to the apostles? (v. 15)
13. What was their relationship to God? (v. 15)
14. How does this relationship with God drive their relationships with “all men”? (v. 15)

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Thess 2:14-16 again.

15. How does their hostility to men reflect itself? (v. 16)

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16. Why does Paul want to speak to Gentiles? (v. 16) How does that instruct what we believe about salvation?
17. What is the result of the hindering efforts of the Jews? (v. 16)
18. What wrath is Paul talking about in v. 16?
19. Why do you think Paul spends so much time talking about the unbelieving Jews here? Consider the original audience of the letter and the circumstances of their reception of the gospel.
20. Is this all Paul thinks about or says about the Jewish people in the NT? Consider Romans 11.
21. What did Paul intend to communicate with these verses to the Thessalonians?

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22. What timeless truth should we glean from this original meaning?

23. How should you respond to these verses with your thinking, believing, and living?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would receive the Word as the Thessalonians did!