

IV. Applying

Q. What must we apply?

A. *God's Word*

* We apply the word through Discipleship and Leadership Training

* There is a logical progression from Abiding to Seeking to Applying God's Word

Q. What does the word discipleship mean to you? Give some examples?

A. *Answers may vary.*

(1 Thess 2:13-14) “13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. 14 For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews...”

Q. Why was Paul thankful?

A. *That the Thessalonians received the word as truth.*

Q. Where did the Thessalonians hear the word?

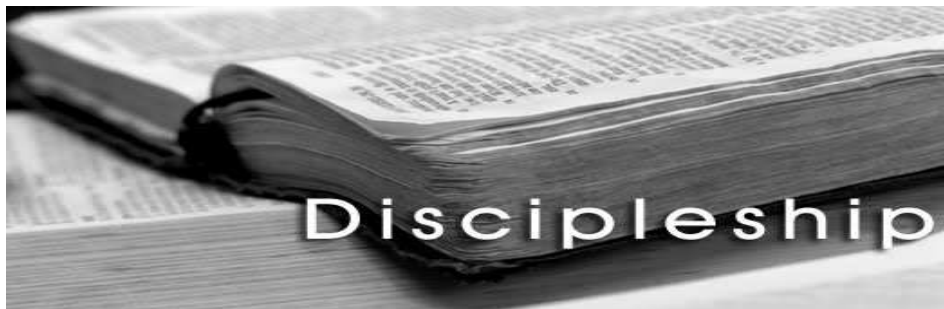
A. *From Paul (and Silas and Timothy)*

Q. How did Paul know that the Thessalonians believed? (v.14)

A. *They became imitators of the Judean Christians by suffering for the faith.*

* Paul labored for weeks in Thessalonica living among the Thessalonians and teaching them day by day. Later he would send Timothy to work among the young church there as well.

* We need to think about discipleship in a 1st Century, New Testament context, not in a western context.



Discipleship/Training Guidelines

1. Biblical – *We transfer **all** authority to the scriptures*

(2 Tim 3:16) “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,”

2. Reproducible – *Keep it simple enough to be shared with others.*

(1 Cor 11:1) “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

3. Obedience Based – *It's not what you know, its what you do.*

(Jn 15:14-15) “You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you “

4. Oral/Literal - *Most field encounters are pictorial.* (Rom 6:23 Illustration)

5. Practiced – *We are confident in what we practice.*

* Confidence + Competence = Boldness

6. Accountability – *Don't expect what you don't inspect*

(Lk 17:3)“Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, “

* This verse tells us to pay attention to the body of Christ and to always watch out for each other.

7. Healthy

- Orthodoxy – *Right thinking or theology*
- Orthopraxy – *Right living or practice*

8. Reproducing – A sign of maturity

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