

what to do
WHILE WE
WAIT

Part 1 – Are You Really Saved?
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be His own people. ⁵ For when we brought you the Gospel, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you deep conviction with full assurance that what we said was true.

1. THE GOSPEL HAS COME TO YOU WITH **POWER**.

- A. *1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 We know...that God...has chosen you to be His own people. For when we brought you the Gospel (the good news about Jesus) it was not only with words but also with **power**, for the Holy Spirit gave you deep conviction with full assurance that what we said was true.*
- B. You know you are a Christ follower when the truths of the gospel have become a **power** within you.
- C. *Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it (the gospel) is the **power** of God for salvation... (NIV)*
- D. *John 16:8-11 When the Holy Spirit comes, He will **convict** the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰ in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. (NIV)*
- E. When the Holy Spirit is drawing you to God, He is speaking into your heart the truth about your **sin**. He is putting pressure on you from the inside about your

sin and guilt. He is showing you there is a better way to live than how you are living and he is showing you that you are headed to judgment if you don't repent.

- F. Christianity isn't something you take up, it is something that takes **you** up. It pushes you to get honest with life & death and to get honest with your behavior on a variety of levels.
- G. *1 Thessalonians 1:5 For when we brought you the Gospel, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you deep **conviction** with full assurance that what we said was true.*

2. YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO **BELIEVE** THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS.

- A. *For when we brought you the **Gospel** (the good news about Jesus) it was not only with words...*

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures... (NIV)

- B. *Romans 10:9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord (meaning Jesus has become my boss)," and believe in your heart that God **raised** Him from the dead, you will be saved. (NIV)*
- C. Truly believing in your **heart** means to believe to the point of commitment. We must believe in our heart that Jesus rose from the grave. The resurrection of Jesus, is a non-negotiable according to the Bible, for anyone to be saved.
- D. The Case For the Resurrection of Jesus – Dr. Gary Habermas. Habermas was raised an atheist who came to faith in Christ and is now a college professor. Habermas also has many YouTube videos related to this subject.

3. YOU HAVE TURNED FROM SERVING **IDOLS** TO SERVING GOD.

- A. *1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 Other believers in the region tell how you turned to God from **idols** to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.*
- B. How do you know what your god is? It's easy. What defines you? What can you not live without?

4. YOU HAVE BEGUN TO EXPERIENCE LIFE **CHANGE** IN CHRIST.

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