

MANUAL FOR MINISTRY

SERIES QUESTION: Why me?

SERIES THEME: To discover, understand, and be confident in our God-given purpose for life

TODAY'S THEME: As God's ministers we all have a message to share that is driven by Godly motives and delivered in a Christ-like manner

TODAY'S TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

I. WHAT IS THE MINISTRY _____?

A. What Did The Apostle Paul Share?

- > The _____ of Jesus Christ • v.2
- They heard the word of God
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- > The Thessalonians became _____
- The word was at work in them • v.13
-

B. _____ Do We Share?

- > The same good news!
 - Not a religious set of rules or way of living life
 - We are called to share _____ and obedience to his words
 - Matthew 28:18-20
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- > We share about Christ crucified
 - 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
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II. WHAT IS THE MINISTRY _____?

A. Why Did The Apostle Paul Share?

- > Not out of impure motives, greed, or to seek praise
 - To _____ God • v.4
 - God knew his motives
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B. _____ Do We Share?

- > Not to fulfill a spiritual _____ or to please the pastor
 - To please God
 - Acts 1:8
 -
- > Someone _____ with us!
 - We want others to respond to the good news
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III. WHAT IS THE MINISTRY _____?

A. How Did The Apostle Paul Share?

- > Not with trickery or flattery
 - Courageously, _____, lovingly, and in a holy manner
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- > In a familial way
 - As a young child, a loving mother, and an _____ father
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B. _____ Do We Share?

- > With courage and daring, in gentleness and love
 - Working hard and being _____ about the call to minister Christ
 - Be yourself, share your heart, listen to the Holy Spirit
 -

CONCLUSION: You have a great message, wonderful motives, and a God-instilled manner in which to share. We are ALL ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ!

LIFEGROUP STUDY QUESTIONS:

OPENING QUESTION: What was one of your most memorable failures in elementary school or high school?

READ 1 Thessalonians 2:1-6.

- > What rumours about Paul had been spread by his opposition? Does Paul sound reassuring to you in his letter? What concerns might linger for the Thessalonians?

READ 1 Thessalonians 2:7-16.

- > From the entire section, what might “ethical evangelism” look like to you? What would its opposite look like?
- > How do the images of child, mother (v.7), and father (v.11) add to this picture?
- > Who has been a positive influence on you for godly living? How can you be more like that person for someone else this week?
- > What really turns you off about the way some people present the gospel? How are you attempting to be different yet still maintain a strong witness?
- > What opposition to your faith are you facing? What encourages you to persevere?

PRAY for opportunities to be a minister of the gospel in the days to come, and for the courage to share in the grace and love that Paul exhibits. Also, pray for any needs in your group and encourage one another in their faith.