

A Model Church for A Modern Culture

All On The Altar Sunday

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Anthony Grove Baptist Church


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March 5, 2017



1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,

A red sun rising over a church steeple against a blue sky with clouds.

³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,



5 because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.



⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.



8 For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,



**9 For they themselves
report ¹⁰ and to wait for his
Son from heaven, whom he
raised from the dead, Jesus
who delivers us from the
wrath to come.-- (ESV)**



A Model Church for A Modern Culture



Eye Opening Reality of the Church & Culture

Since 2000 = 74% Increase in Mosques

From 1965-2005

UMC = - 27%

Epis. = - 34%

UCC = - 41%

PCUSA = - 46%

LDS = + 218%

SBC = + 51%



SBC Churches

2014 – Least baptisms since 1948 (66yrs)

1948 = 171 million people in USA

2014 = 317 million people in USA

Increase +171 million in population



1. A Model Church Is Filled with Celebration.

**John 2:23²³ Because of the
miraculous signs Jesus did in
Jerusalem at the Passover
celebration, many began to
trust in him.-- (NLT)**



1 Peter 1:8

8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,-- (NIV)




Luke 15:32

32 We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!' "-- (NLT)



A. The Worship They Sent Up.

1 Thessalonians 1:5⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.-- (ESV)




B. The Word They Soaked Up.

1 Thessalonians 1:6⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit,-- (ESV)



Psalm 119:103

**103 How sweet are your words
to my taste, sweeter than
honey to my mouth!-- (NIV)**



1 Peter 1:23

23 For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.-- (NLT)



2. A Model Church Is Founded on Dedication

A. A Church Concerned About the Lost.

1 Thessalonians 1:8⁸ And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia, for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God. We don't need to tell them about it,-- (NLT)



1 Thessalonians 1:9

**9 for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,-
- (NIV)**



B. A Church Committed to The Lord.

**1 Thessalonians 1:4⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,--
(ESV)**



1 Thessalonians 1:8

8 And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia, for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God. We don't need to tell them about it,-- (NLT)



3. A Model Church Is Focused in Anticipation.

**1 Thessalonians 1:7⁷ As a result, you have become an example to all the believers in Greece—throughout both Macedonia and Achaia.--
(NLT)**



A. They Labored in the Work of God.

1 Thessalonians 1:3³ We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.-- (NIV)



1 Thessalonians 1:9

9 for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.



B. They Looked for the Son of God.

1 Thessalonians 1:10¹⁰ And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead. He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment.-- (NLT)



1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. ¹⁷ Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.



God Bless

HAVE A GREAT WEEK

