

From the message on May 17, 2026

Series Title: Amplify Jesus: Lessons from Thessalonians

The letters of 1 and 2 Thessalonians were written to a young church learning how to follow Jesus in a complex and often challenging world. In this series, we'll be drawing out eight key lessons that rise to the surface of the Apostle Paul's words – lessons about faith that endures, love that overflows, holiness that marks our lives, and hope that anchors us.

Since Jesus Matters Most is the headline for the story that has been written at Calvary, our aim is to Amplify Jesus so that more people can discover God's love and find a church home in our community. We will succeed by each of us choosing to talk openly about why Jesus matters so much to us, and by matching our lives to our message. It's surround sound for St. Charles County. Turn up the volume!

Icebreaker Question

- Who is someone outside your family that made a big impact on your life personally? What did they do that made such a difference? (Teachers, coaches, pastors, neighbors, mentors, etc.)

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

1. *Paul says he and his companions were willing to share "not only the gospel of God but also our own selves" (v. 8).* – What does it mean to share "your own selves" with someone else?
2. *In this passage, Paul contrasts self-serving ministry with God-serving ministry.* – What are some ways our culture pushes us toward performance, image, or influence instead of genuine care for people? Where do you personally feel that tension most?
3. *Paul describes ministry with family language — like a nursing mother and a caring father.* – Why do you think personal presence and relationships matter so much in spiritual growth? When have you experienced encouragement, challenge, or growth through someone simply "being there" for you?
4. *The sermon emphasized that Christianity is not a spectator sport.* – What's the difference between consuming church content and personally participating in gospel ministry? What might personal ministry realistically look like in your current season of life?
5. *Verse 12 says Paul encouraged and challenged people "to walk in a manner worthy of God."* – Who has God placed around you right now that may need encouragement, discipleship, friendship, or spiritual support from you? What is one practical step you could take this week to "make ministry personal?"

Encourage Each Other Through Prayer

Events & Prayer

- Find more information at calvary.church.