AS A NURSING MOTHER

1 Thessalonians 2:1–16

Key Verses: 2:7,8

1. What did Paul say about his mission team’s first visit to them? (1,2) How had they been “treated outrageously” in Philippi? (Ac16:19–24) What “strong opposition” had they experienced in Thessalonica? (Ac17:5) How and why did they dare to tell them God’s gospel anyway?
2. In what ways did Paul describe their motives? (3–5) What does it mean that they were “approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel”? Why is it so important to try to please God, not people, in ministry?
3. Read verses 7,8. What does it mean to care for people “as a nursing mother,” and why is this necessary? Why were they “delighted” to share not only the gospel but also their lives? How can we follow their example?
4. How else did Paul describe how his team lived while ministering in Thessalonica? (9,10) How did they deal with the new believers there? (11,12) What can we learn here?
5. Read verse 13. What can we learn from the Thessalonians about receiving and accepting the word of God? What was the evidence that they had accepted it? (14,15) What did Paul say about those who try to keep people from speaking about Jesus? (16)