

**Let's Be Like Paul in 2024!
Unstoppable, Pt. 3**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

January 21, 2024

1 Thessalonians 1:3, We 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.

1 Thessalonians 1:6, You became **imitators** of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. **7** And so you became a **model** to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

Ways We Can Imitate Paul's Ministry:

1) We Don't Back DOWN

1 Thessalonians 2:1, You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. **2** We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition.

Acts 16:30, He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" **31** They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

2) We Have the Right MOTIVES

1 Thessalonians 2:3, For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. **4** On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel.

3) We Don't Act Like HYPOCRITES

1 Thessalonians 2:5, You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness.

4) We are God Pleasers, Not People PLEASERS

1 Thessalonians 2:4, ... We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts... **6** We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority.

5) We Minister With Care, Love and HUMILITY

1 Thessalonians 2:7, ... Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, **8** so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

6) We Put in the EFFORT

1 Thessalonians 2:9, Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

7) We Minister With Enthusiasm and ENCOURAGEMENT

1 Thessalonians 2:10, You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. **11** For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, **12** encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.