

A COMMENDABLE CHURCH

Introduction: Every local church should desire to have the Lord's _____.
The church of Thessalonica was indeed commended by the Lord and Paul. They are a model for any church to _____.

- I. A _____ Church (1 Thessalonians 1:2-5)
 - A. This was a church that brought _____ to Paul.
 - B. We should be the type of church that makes the Lord _____.
 - C. Paul _____ for local churches.
 - D. This church had all the important _____ (1 Cor. 13:13).
 - E. True faith will produce _____ (Jas. 2:17-18).
 - F. True love will produce _____ for others (1 Jn. 3:18).
 - G. True hope will produce _____ (Ro. 8:23-25; 2 Thess. 3:5)
 - H. God _____ what is really in our hearts and what we do.
 - I. Every believer is one of God's _____.
 - J. The gospel message must be _____ as being more than just words.
 - K. The Holy Spirit must bring _____.
 - L. When a person receives the Word as God's, there is _____.
- II. A _____ Church (1 Thessalonians 1:6-9)
 - A. Paul and his helpers were great _____ to new believers.
 - B. People learn more from you by what they _____ than what they hear.
 - C. The Thessalonians were persecuted, but they still had _____ (Jn. 16:33).
 - D. They then became examples for other churches to _____.
 - E. Their testimony became an _____ to churches all over.
 - F. A healthy church is one that _____ itself.
 - G. Their word was backed up by their testimony—they really _____.
 - H. "You cannot turn to Christ Jesus without turning _____ something" (McGee).
 - I. Repentance is what is lacking in so many churches _____.
- III. A _____ Church (1 Thessalonians 1:10)
 - A. We are to be _____ for Christ to return in our lifetime.
 - B. We will not be left here during the Tribulation of God's _____.

Conclusion: "The Thessalonians had not treated the message as a mere religious lecture; they had, of course, received it in word, but not in word only" (MacDonald).