

1 THESSALONIANS: THRIVING THROUGH SUFFERING

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BIG IDEA

God's Word will rock your world!

OUTLINE

Encountering God's word

- I accept it
- I obey it
- I'm transformed by it

Apprenticeship with God's word

- Becoming like Jesus is the goal
- We follow the model of other apprentices
- We model for others to follow

Suffering

- Life-change can bring us suffering
- Every christian will experience suffering
- Loving relationships help us thrive when we suffer

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the first time you encountered God's Word. Was it easy for you to accept? Has that belief changed at all? Compare it to Paul's description in 2:13.
2. At this point in your life, does following Jesus feel more like a moral list of To Do's or more like life transformation? Explain.
3. Respond to the following statement: "I can't model or disciple anyone because I don't know enough."
4. In what specific ways have you been encouraged by someone else's faith? Have you told him or her about it?
5. What would you consider the redemptive value of suffering for a follower of Jesus?

NEXT STEP

☐ I will respond to God's word this week by _____.