

High Point Bible Study
May 3, 2017
“A Clear Model for Leadership”
1 Thessalonians 2:1-13

I. Bold Leadership (1-4)

A. Effective Communication (1-2)

1. Factual *“For you yourselves know, brothers...”* (1)
2. Fruitful *“that our visit with you was not without result”* (1) because *“when you received the message about God that you heard from us, you welcomed it not as a human message, but as it truly is, the message of God, which also works effectively in you believers.”* (13)
3. Faithful *“after we had previously suffered and we were treated outrageously in Philippi”* (2)
4. Forthright *“we were emboldened by our God to speak the gospel of God to you in spite of great opposition.”* (2)

B. Transparent Motives (2:3-6a)

1. Appeal *“For our exhortation”* (3)
 - a. Assured *“didn’t come from error”*
 - b. Apparent *“didn’t come from...impurity”*
 - c. Authentic *“or an intent to deceive.”* The NIV translates this phrase *“nor are we trying to trick you;”* the Twentieth Century New Testament uses *“any intention of misleading you.”*
2. Approved *“we have been approved by God”* (4) To paraphrase John Bunyan: “All the criticism in the world means nothing to me if I sense God’s approval; all the commendation in the world means nothing if I don’t get that approval.”

II. Caring Example (5-8)

A. Caring Actions

1. Appropriate *“For we never used flattering speech. . .or had greedy motives”* (5)
2. Accommodating *“we didn’t seek glory from people, either from you or from others.”* (6)
3. Appealing *“Although we could have been a burden as Christ’s apostles”* (7)

B. Caring Attitudes

1. Loyal *“instead we were gentle among you, as a nursing mother nurtures her own children”* (7)
2. Loving *“We cared so much for you”* (8)
 - a. *“we were pleased to share with you not only the gospel of God”*
 - b. *“but also our own lives because you had become dear to us.”*

III. Strong Work Ethic (9-12)

A. Hard Worker *“For you remember our labor and hardship, brothers. Working night and day so that we would not burden any of you”* (9)

B. Good Model

1. Manner *“You are witnesses, and so is God. . .”* (10)
 - a. **devoutly** – *“holy,” “justly”* – set apart, fully devoted.
 - b. **righteously** – *“justly,” “upright”*, conforming to God’s standards.
 - c. **blamelessly** – *“without reproach”* impeccable reputation
2. Method *“like a father with his own children”* (11)
 - a. **encouraged** – *“exhorted,” “console”* – A loving father trains by encouragement.
 - b. **comforted** – *“soothing”* – A loving father helps heal hurts (2 Cor. 1:3-5).
 - c. **implored** – *“solemnly plead,” “by solemn injunctions”* – A loving father urges his children to adopt the proper lifestyle and to assume certain responsibilities.
3. Motivation *“to walk worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. This is why we constantly thank God...”* (12-13a)

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Upcoming High Point Speakers:

David Self – 5/10, 5/24; 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28

Guest Speakers:

Doug Bischoff – 5/17

Sara Johnson’s song link: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/dance-with-the-devil-single/id1230120746>