

GENTLENESS

"But he was pierced for our transgressions he was crushed for our iniquities" Isaiah 53:5



We were like Young Children 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

March 13th-19th

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. 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. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. 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. 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. 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. 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.





FOUNDATION



Write out any key or repeated words and phrases. What is the key verse of the passage? Pick a memory verse and write it out.

READ & REREAD

Read the passage in multiple translations. Notice any differences. Did anything stick out new when you read it again?

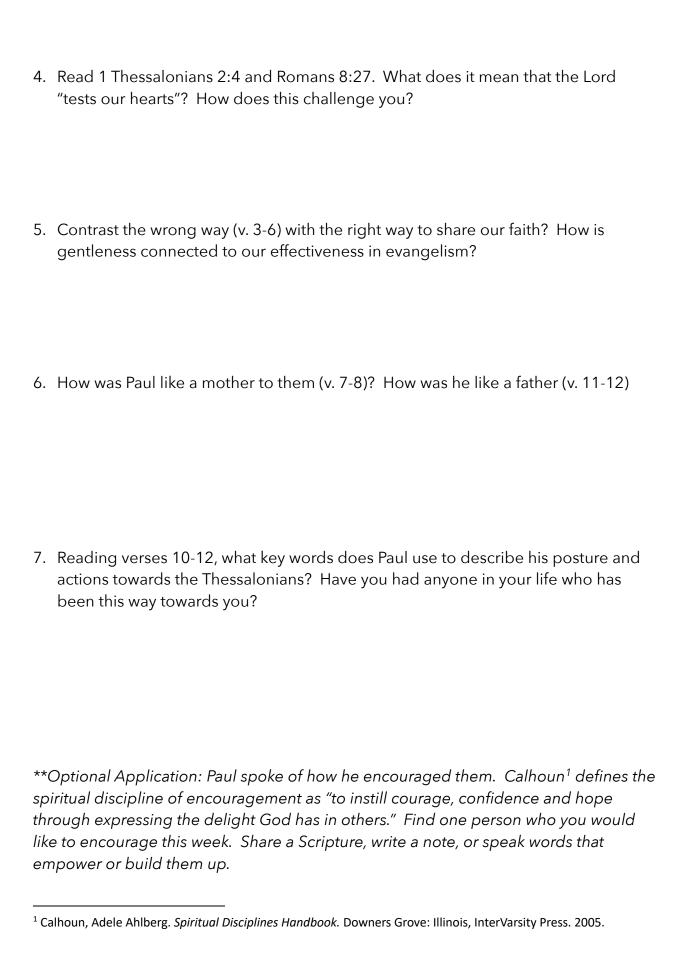
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UNDERSTAND
Ask Questions of the passage. What does it teach me about God? What does it say about sin?
What does it say about the gospel? What would you like to research further?
INTERPRET
Consult Commentaries. Use any commentaries or Study Bible notes to help answer some of your above questions. Write out any insights.
TAKE ACTION
Apply the passage. How does this passage change you? What is one action step you can take from it? Close your time by writing out a prayer from what you have learned.

We were like Young Children 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

**Remember to read the Optional Application

1. Read the following passages and write out how they define gentleness.
Proverbs 15:1
Philippians 4:4-7
Colossians 3:12-14
1 Peter 3:15-16
Matthew 11:28-30
2. Now read our passage in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12—how does this display gentleness?
3. Putting all this together, how would you define gentleness?



<u>Pierced for our Transgressions</u> <u>Isaiah 53</u>

March 20th-26th

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

- ² He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.
- He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
- ³ He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.
- ⁴ Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.
- ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.
- ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.
- ⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

- 10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.
- ¹¹ After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.
- 12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

 For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.





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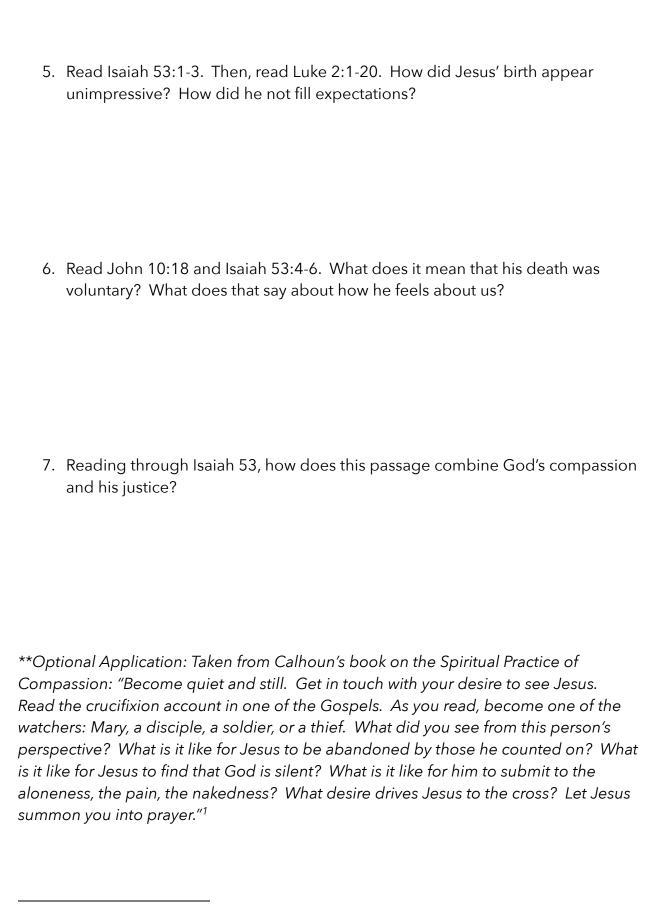
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Pierced for our Transgressions <u>Isaiah 53</u>

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1.	What does it mean that God deals with us in gentleness? Think of specific instances where you have experienced that in your life? How does that make you grateful?
2.	Read Isaiah 52:13 through chapter 53. How does Jesus fulfill this role of the suffering servant?
3.	Read Philippians 2:5-8 and Hebrews 4:14-16. How does Jesus display humility and gentleness?
4.	How might pride be a stumbling block to our being gentle?



¹ Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. Spiritual Disciplines Handbook. Downers Grove: Illinois, InterVarsity Press. 2005.