

I. Their _____ of God's Word (I Thess. 1:5-6).

"for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with joy of the Holy Spirit."

Looking toward heaven you see a sign which says: "Whosoever will may come," and when you enter heaven and look back, the sign says: "Chosen in Him before the foundation of the world."

A. They showed a _____ toward God's Word.

"When a person is settled and steadfast about his own salvation, he will be as bold as a lion, but if that hope becomes eclipsed, he will be fearful and afraid and becomes disqualified for service."
(John Wesley)

B. They became true _____ of Paul and Christ.

"Imitation is not just the sincerest form of flattery, it's the sincerest form of learning."
(George Bernard Shaw)

C. They _____ with Joy.

II. Their _____ of God's Word (I Thess. 1:7-10).

"... so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come."

A. They became _____ of the Word.

The imitators in their turn became the imitated.

"Setting an example is not the main means of influencing another, it is the only means"
(Albert Einstein)

B. They began _____ of God's Word.

People knew where these Christians stood and their relationship with God was known everywhere.

C. They brought about _____ of the Gospel.

This was not reform first then faith in Christ. This was faith in Christ which resulted in reformation.