

## Church at Home Pack – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Join us in church for our 10:30am service on Sunday or watch live at home on

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/service-type/sunday-service-online/>

If you like, join in with the discussion on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

**In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family or life group than others. We're not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!) Choose the ones which best suit you.**

*Our verse for the year is the same as last year's verse as we think about the difference being with Jesus makes to our lives*

**When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.**

*Acts 4:13*

### **GATHER TOGETHER**

#### ***A prayer to start –***

*We begin as Paul did at the start of his letter and ask:*

May the grace of God be among us,  
and the peace of God be on our hearts.

**Amen.**



#### **Action reminder –**

From the top of my head

*(Touch head)*

to the tips of my toes;

*(Touch toes)*

from the lobes of my ears

*(Touch ear lobes)*

to the end of my nose;

*(Touch nose)*

from my back, to my front

*(Turn round)*

to my wiggly fingers,

*(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)*

God loves me!

*(jump up and down)*

## READ TOGETHER

### 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10



#### International Children's Bible (ICB)



**1** From Paul, Silas, and Timothy.

To the church in Thessalonica, the church in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. May God's grace and peace be yours.

**2** We always remember you when we pray and thank God for all of you. **3** When we pray to God our Father, we always thank him for the things you have done because of your faith. And we thank him for the work you have done because of your love. And we thank him that you continue to be strong because of your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**4** Brothers, God loves you. And we know that he has chosen you to be his. **5** We brought the Good News to you. But we did not use only words. We brought the Good News with power, with the Holy Spirit, and with sure knowledge that it is true. Also you know how we lived when we were with you. We lived that way to help you. **6** And you became like us and like the Lord. You suffered much, but still you accepted the teaching with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. **7** So you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and Southern Greece. **8** The Lord's teaching spread from you in Macedonia and Southern Greece. And your faith in God has become known everywhere. So we do not need to say anything about your faith. **9** People everywhere are telling about the good way you accepted us when we were there with you. They tell about how you stopped worshiping idols and changed to serving the living and true God. **10** And you changed to wait for God's Son to come from heaven. God raised that Son from death. He is Jesus, who saves us from God's angry judgment that is sure to come.

#### New International Version (NIV)

**1** Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

**2** We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. **3** We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**4** For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, **5** because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. **6** You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. **7** And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. **8** The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, **9** for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, **10** and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

## WATCH TOGETHER

1 Thessalonians is a letter written by Paul, the same man who we met when we studied Acts 9 together a couple of weeks ago. Paul travelled far and wide, telling people about Jesus and he wrote letters to help the people who became followers.

Here's a fun video from the 'What's in the Bible' characters!



*Paul's Letters* – What's in the Bible <https://youtu.be/s1mBdjiMEDk>



As we begin this journey together, this overview might be helpful:

*1 Thessalonians* – Bible Project: <https://youtu.be/No7Nq6IX23c>

## TALK TOGETHER

- What does it mean to have faith?
- How can what you do and how you act show your faith?

## STUDY TOGETHER

The church in Thessalonica was still very young and facing great difficulties when Paul wrote this letter. He and his companions had been forced to leave as their lives were in danger. **Read Acts 17: 1-10**

Paul writes this letter to the new believers to encourage them in their faith and assure them of Christ's return. **Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

After the opening greeting, Paul begins his letter by assuring them of their prayers and thanks. **(v2)**

- What are the three qualities that he recognises in the Thessalonians? **(v3)**

Paul notes that they are marks of an authentic Christian life and refers to them in other letters (notably 1 Corinthians 13:13)

- Can you recognise the impact of faith in Jesus in your 'work'? How?

**(v4-10)** Paul reminds them of their encounter with the Holy Spirit and the strength of their conviction when they first heard the gospel.

- How did their new found faith affect the behaviour of the Thessalonians. **(v6, 9)**
- What effect did this change have on those around them? **(v7-8)**
- The Thessalonians experienced suffering - In times of difficulty and suffering how does the hope inspired by your faith help you?



The opening passage of this letter shows a community of believers with an 'authentic faith'.

- What does it mean for our faith to be authentic?
- What does it look like to be living our lives for God, authentically?

## PLAY TOGETHER

### ***Follow the Leader Obstacle Course***

In our Bible passage we read that because of their faith the Thessalonians tried to behave and act like Jesus. Even when they went through very difficult times their faith showed in all they did. This caused others to become followers.

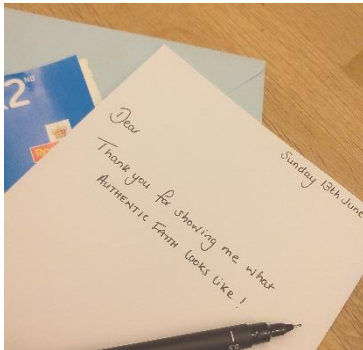


Create an obstacle course (inside or outside). Choose one person to be the leader. The leader chooses different actions to do as they move through the course (such as hopping, jumping or crawling) and everyone else has to follow and copy what they do – no matter how difficult it gets!

## MAKE TOGETHER

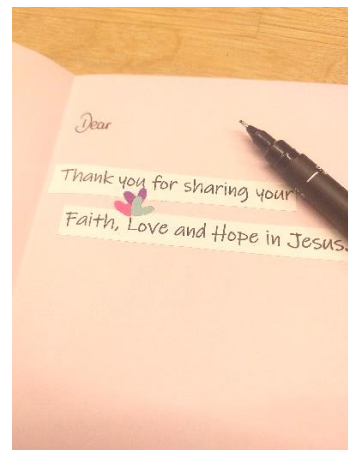
### ***The letter to the Thessalonians begins with thanks...***

*<sup>2</sup> We always remember you when we pray and thank God for all of you. <sup>3</sup> When we pray to God our Father, we always thank him for the things you have done because of your faith. And we thank him for the work you have done because of your love. And we thank him that you continue to be strong because of your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*



**Write a thank you letter or card** to someone who has shown you what real faith in Jesus looks like. You might like to include the words of the verses above. Younger children might like to send a letter or card to someone who has helped them to learn about Jesus.

Use whatever you have available to decorate your letter or card. Here are some ideas:



## SING TOGETHER

*Every move I make* – Hillsong Kids (Sing and Dance-a-long): <https://youtu.be/MPvnZILn6EY>

*Everything* – Tim Hughes (Kingsway Worship): [https://youtu.be/Wg\\_OK1V8mGs](https://youtu.be/Wg_OK1V8mGs)

*Little life (for you Jesus)* – Hillsong Kids: [https://youtu.be/Lcgxg12EG\\_Q](https://youtu.be/Lcgxg12EG_Q)

*Jesus, all for Jesus* – Robin Mark: <https://youtu.be/glvnLI-vvOo>

## REFLECT TOGETHER



Believing in who Jesus is and what he has done is life changing. Our faith should affect everything we do. In our service today we sang 'Jesus, be the centre'. Read the words of the song and take some time to think about these questions –

- ❖ Is Jesus at the centre of your life?
- ❖ Are you living as an authentic Christian?

*Jesus, be the centre  
Be my source, be my light  
Jesus*

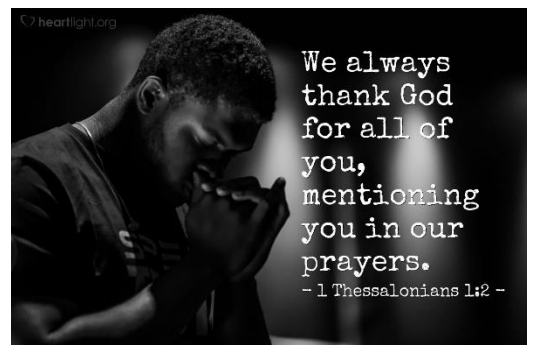
*Jesus, be the centre  
Be my hope, be my song  
Jesus*

*Be the fire in my heart  
Be the wind in these sails  
Be the reason that I live  
Jesus, Jesus*

*Jesus, be my vision  
Be my path, be my guide  
Jesus*

## PRAY TOGETHER

Dear Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for the people who show us what authentic faith in you looks like.  
Thank you for their work produced by faith and prompted by love  
Thank you for the hope they have in you.  
**Amen**



Father God,  
Our faith in Jesus is nothing if we keep it hidden.  
help us to put into practice  
what we learn when we are together.  
Help us to live out our faith  
and share the message of Jesus  
throughout our daily lives.  
**Amen**

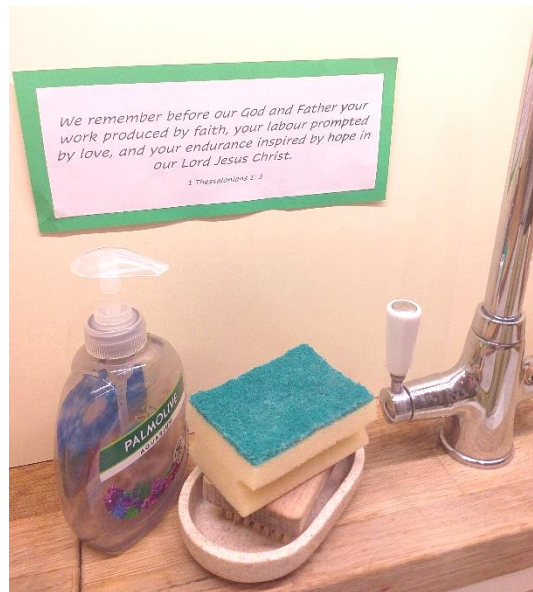
## **DO TOGETHER**

**We all have things to do each week. What will you be doing? How will your faith in Jesus show?**

You might be going to work, pre-school, school or college. You might be working at home. You might be doing chores, going shopping, making a phone call or meeting a friend.

Put this verse somewhere you will see it often this week: by your front door, on your desk, inside your pencil case, by the washing machine....!

*We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1: 3*



**As you do your 'work' this week, let it be inspired by your faith in Jesus, do it with the love of Jesus and hold on to the hope of Jesus.**

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*Action Reminder and prayers taken and adapted from*

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