

In Pursuit of a Better Church, part 1
“The Distinguishing Marks of a Model Church”

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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Acts 17:1-15

1 Thes. 1:1-2

1. They possess essential Christian virtues. (1:3)

- Work of Faith
- Labor of Love
- Steadfastness of Hope

2. They grow through humble imitation. (1:6)

1 Corinthians 4:16

Galatians 4:12

Philippians 3:17

- “I follow Christ, and not any person.”
- “I follow no one, not even Christ.”

3. They model faith for others. (1:7-8)

1 Timothy 4:12

4. They live changed lives. (1:9-10)

- Turned from idols
- Serve a living God
- Wait for Jesus

5. They accept the Gospel (1:4-5)

What sets some churches/Christians apart is their full conviction of the Gospel.

Cell Group Discussion Questions

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1. Briefly share your faith journey (testimony).
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 together. Can your family and close friends say this of you? Why or why not?
3. Among the Christians whom you personally know, whose life should you most want to imitate? Do you?
4. Aside from your children, are there people who imitate your life? If not, why not?
5. Spend time praying that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can take a hold of you with power and conviction.