

Pastor Nelson – The Coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ 1 Thessalonians 2

How the Church Was Nurtured

Nurture means to care for the growth of something. We all start that way in the Lord.

After Paul hears the good report from Timothy, Paul knows that the labor of founding the church was not in vain.

Paul could have given up after being beaten and arrested, but he saw his trials as greater responsibility. Bringing the gospel to the world is still our charge, and it's easier now with social media and other forms of technology. It is NOT our responsibility, however, to convert others. That is God's work.

We're not in the ministry to deceive, so we can't promise that Christian life is easy or not practice what we preach, because people are watching (often more than they listen,) and they're quick to notice when you stumble. Sanctification is a process (1 Peter 1:15, 16- be holy because I am holy.)

When a baby is learning to walk, you have to watch them, so that if they fall, you can help them up. We also make sure that we break up any hard or big chunks of food for them to be able to consume it.

After comparing himself to a mother, he compares himself to a father, as both a hard worker and an example of holiness.

Paul ends by saying that his joy and his glory were the believers at Thessalonika. They, like we should, congregated regularly and encourage another in prayer, etc.

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