

Establishing Others in the Faith

John Crawford

I. Introduction.

- A. 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
- B. Words are important and can change us.
- C. We are encouraged by many kinds of words.
- D. The Word of God works in believers. (2 Timothy 2:15)
- E. We want to become established in the Word, prayer and obedience.

II. What the Word had done for the Thessalonians.

- A. They had become followers of the Word and God.
- B. They spread the Word themselves.
- C. They suffered much.
- D. They became established in the faith.
- E. Their hearts were being established for Christ's Coming.
- F. They were encouraged concerning His Coming.

III. Special blessings concerning God's Word.

- A. There was a special anointing for the one reading the Bible and putting it into practice. (Revelation 1:3)
- B. There is blessing for the Word put into practice. (Psalm 1:2-3)
- C. The man who practices the Word will be successful in his walk in Christ.
- D. We should be planted by the Word so that we can be established.
- E. We grow by the Word as new Christians. (1 Peter, Hebrews 5:12)
 - 1. We always need the Word, but we need to advance in it. We have to use the Word to make application in our lives. (1 Corinthians 3)
 - 2. Christians are established by somebody using the Bible.
 - 3. Soon after a person comes to the Lord he needs someone to come along side of him.

4. Young men overcome the wicked one by the Word of God. (1 John 2:14, Psalm 119:111)

5. Do not put yourself in a position to sin. (1 Thessalonians 5)

6. The Word is profitable to make the man mature. (Acts 20:32, Colossians 3:16)

V. We should be established in prayer. (Luke 11:1)

A. When you pray, say.

B. Ask in Christ's name. (John 16:24, Matthew 20:8)

C. When you get to the end of your rope, turn to Christ and give Him your burden. (Deuteronomy 22:10)

D. Pray in faith. (Matthew 21:22)

E. Keep timing in mind. (Hebrews 10:25)

F. Ask according to His will. (1 John 5:14-15)

G. Ask according to the Word of God. (John 15:7)

H. Prayer is communion with God initiated by Him. (Luke 18:1, Matthew 7:11)

I. Put your burden before God whatever it is.

J. Develop the ministry of prayer.

VI. Make obedience a way of life.

A. We should not ask how far we can go with sin.

B. Obedience is a prerequisite to further life. (John 14:21, Mark 4:24-25)

C. If we put into practice what we hear, we will gain some more. (Deuteronomy 4:9)

D. If we teach and do not practice, we will be like the hypocrites. (Matthew 23:1)

VII. Conclusion.

A. Make a plan to become saturated with the Word.

B. Becoming established in prayer takes practice.

C. Become established in obedience - our progress in life is proportional to our obedience.

Application questions

1. What are the consequences of putting the Word into practice?

2. What does a healthy prayer life look like?

3. What is your plan to establish the Word in your life? Write one down and be specific.
