I Thessalonians 1:3-9

- Our Thessalonian brethren demonstrate how a healthy congregation makes an impact for Christ and how true Christians live out their faith.
- Today, we are going to look at five ways this was accomplished and how we can be pleasing to God in the same way.

• Christian be-livers are.....

#### INVOLVED IN SERVING

- These brethren saw that faith has to be lived out.
- Here Paul and James agree about having an active (working) faith.
- James 2:18

• Christian be-livers are.....

#### **IMITATORS IN SUFFERING**

- Paul says that they had become like "us and the Lord" regarding afflictions.
- This is a reference to Acts 17:1-9
- II Timothy 3:12

• Christian be-livers are.....

#### INSPIRATIONAL IN STEADFASTNESS

- They became examples to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.
- They were steadfast in hope- vs. 3.
- They were steadfast in their faith- vs. 8
- They were steadfast in their belief in the S.C.- vs. 10

• Christian be-livers are.....

#### INSTRUCTIVE IN SCRIPTURES

- The word of the Lord went out from them to Macedonia and Achaia.- vs. 8
- They were evangelizing the surrounding provinces.
- GET THE WORD OUT!!!!!!

• Christian be-livers are.....

#### IMPRESSIVE IN SUBMISSION

- They stopped serving idols and turned to God.
- How difficult is it to let go of the flesh and live according to the Spirit- Romans 8:5
- They changed. They switched sides. They submitted.