

# Joy Returned

## 1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

9.27.26

1. In verse 6, Timothy brought Paul “good news” about the Thessalonians. What specifically encouraged Paul about their faith and love?
2. Paul says that the Thessalonians “always think kindly of us, longing to see us.” What does this reveal about the importance of relationships between believers and spiritual leaders?
3. Verse 7 says Paul was comforted “in all our affliction and distress” because of their faith. How can the spiritual faithfulness of another believer encourage us when we are struggling?
4. Paul says in verse 8, “For now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord.” What does this tell us about the connection between Christian perseverance and Christian joy?
5. Why is it so encouraging to see someone you have invested in spiritually continue to stand firm in the Lord?
6. Think about someone whose faith has encouraged you. What did you see in their life that strengthened your own faith?
7. Paul’s joy was not based primarily on circumstances but on the spiritual condition of the Thessalonians. What does this teach us about where our joy should come from?
8. Verse 10 says Paul was praying “night and day” that he might see them and complete what was lacking in their faith. What does this teach us about persistent prayer for other believers?
9. Are there people in your life for whom you need to pray more consistently? What specifically should you be asking God to do in their lives?
10. How can we become the kind of Christians whose faith, love, and perseverance bring joy and encouragement to other believers?