

“NOTICE THE TRANSFORMATION”

1 Thessalonians 2:7-12

Presented by

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Someone has said, “The only constant in life is change.” Then as we mature, we experience change as either beautiful or a bother. It is important to note that life has a built in transformation process that was designed by God, it is not an option.

Change is wonderful, needful and at times, uncomfortable; but we must be careful that we avoid falling into one of two unhealthy perspectives:

1.) We must avoid “hyper focus” on one stage of development.

When we value one stage of maturity as more important than another we can easily become the 20-year old who can't wait to retire, or the 50-year old in baggy pants who still greets you with, ‘Yo, yo, ‘sup?’

2.) We must avoid a lack of reflection on the importance of process.

Part of the joy of family is having generations gathered together at various events. What a blessing it is to have the old, young and each stage-in-between appreciating and encouraging one another as they

experience life together. Reflection on a common bond ... a family name ... is valuable.

In First Thessalonians, the Apostle Paul reveals that what is true in our physical life is also true in the spiritual. The process of maturing is important, and every stage is bound together in the Gospel.

TWO KEYS

- Notice the **Similes**
 - Paul chooses word pictures that evoke **emotions**.
 - ✓ Nursing mother –

 - ✓ Exhorting father –

- Notice the **Stories**
 - Life change leaves a memorable **trail**.

- Notice the **Energies**
 - Night and day ... **tirelessly**

- Notice what Leads to **Maturity**
 - When **newborns** they needed the **Gospel** (v. 8).

 - When **maturing** they needed the **Gospel** (v. 9).

 - What is at **work** among them now? The **Gospel** (v. 13)

- Notice the **Glory**
 - That we would walk **worthy** of the kind of God that would save **us!**

WRAP