

9. They never sought _____ from anyone.

Acts 14:11-18

10. They didn't even assert their _____!

11. They were _____ as a nursing mother would tenderly care for her own children.

Ephesians 5:29

Conclusion

Let us refuse to be intimidated by the world's opposition to the gospel and its hostility toward the church!

Let us renounce the use of the world's tactics of persuasion!

Let us resist the temptation to be coercive or manipulative as we proclaim the gospel!

THE APOSTOLIC PATTERN – CHARACTER

1 Thessalonians 2:1-7

Introduction

2 Peter 2:1-3; 1 Timothy 6:3-5; 2 Timothy 4:3-4

“Good examples have a powerful influence upon us, for we are led more by pattern than by precept, especially the examples of those we love, for such we are prone to imitate; but more especially of those who are in nearest relation to us, for there nature sides with grace.”
Thomas Manton

Paul, Silas and Timothy exemplify the character of true Christian leaders and provide a model for all Christians. Their character also serves to identify false teachers.

The “For... but...” structure identifies three elements of Paul's impeccable pastoral character:

Model for Ministry – *What they were doing (1-2)*

They came to preach the whole truth of the gospel!

1. Paul, Silas and Timothy came to the Thessalonians and proclaimed the gospel with _____ in the face of opposition.

2. Faithfully proclaiming the gospel will be used of God
to save those whom He has _____.

Acts 4:23-31

“Opposition” (Strong’s #73): Colossians 2:1 “struggle”;
Philippians 1:30 “conflict”; 1 Timothy 6:12 “fight”;
Hebrews 12:1 “race”

Motives for Ministry – *Why they were doing it (3-4)*

They were motivated by the desire to please God!

3. Their teaching was not from _____.

2 Timothy 3:13; Jude 11

4. The message was not motivated by _____.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

5. Its purpose was not _____.

John 1:47; Acts 13:10

6. Nor was it motivated by the desire to _____
men.

Galatians 1:10; 2 Corinthians 5:10

Methods for Ministry – *How they were doing it (5-7)*

They treated the Thessalonians with tender care!

7. They never employed _____ speech.

8. They never used a pretext for _____.

Luke 20:47; 2 Peter 2:14; Colossians 3:5