



“...These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.” Acts 17:6 (NIV)

“You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you His gospel in the face of strong opposition. For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory.” 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 (NIV)

## ★ Ministry that Turns the World Upside Down...

### 1. DARINGLY PREACHES THE RIGHT MESSAGE.

“You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God **we dared to tell you His gospel** in the face of strong opposition.” 1 Thessalonians 2:1-2 (NIV)

### 2. HUMBLY POSSESSES THE RIGHT MOTIVES.

“For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel.” 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4a (NIV)

## ❖ Evidenced By...

### ➤ Not focusing on PLEASING PEOPLE.

“We are not trying to please people...We were not looking for **praise from people**, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority.” 1 Thessalonians 2:4, 6 (NIV)

## ※ Three Symptoms of the Disease to Please:

- I take CRITICISM personally.
- I fear REJECTION immensely.
- I say ‘NO’ rarely.

### ➤ Not focusing on PERSONAL GAIN.

“You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness.” 1 Thessalonians 2:5 (NIV)

### ➤ Focusing on PLEASING GOD.

“We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.” 1 Thessalonians 2:4b (NIV)

### 3. CONSISTENTLY PRACTICES THE RIGHT METHODS.

#### ➤ **Life SHARERS.**

*"Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."*

1 Thessalonians 2:7-8a (NIV)

*"We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and **opened wide our hearts to you**. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—**open wide your hearts also**."*

1 Corinthians 6:11-13 (NIV)

#### ➤ **Burden LIFTERS.**

*"Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order **not to be a burden** to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you." 1 Thessalonians 2:9 (NIV)*

*"**Carry each other's burdens**, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (NIV)*

#### ➤ **Jesus IMITATORS.**

*"You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children." 1 Thessalonians 2:10-11 (NIV)*

#### ➤ **Gospel MOTIVATORS.**

*"Encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory."*

1 Thessalonians 2:12 (NIV)