

The Model Church: A Strong Conversion

1 Thessalonians 01:05–10

1 *They had ministers*

*who preached the gospel
as it should be preached*

- a. Ministers who did not preach just words
- b. Ministers who preached in power and in the Holy Spirit and deep conviction
- c. Ministers who lived what they preached

2 *They received the Word (the gospel) despite opposition and persecution*

3 *They became examples to other believers*

- a. They sounded forth the word themselves
- b. Their testimony was spread abroad

4 *They turned to God from idols*

- a. Turned to serve the living God
- b. Turned to wait for Christ's return
- c. Turned to escape the wrath of God

5 Because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.

6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

7 And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia — your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it,

9 For they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.