

## A LIFE OF INFLUENCE

1 Thes. 1:1 (NIV) *Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.*

<sup>2</sup> *We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. <sup>3</sup> We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>4</sup> *For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you,*

### 1). You are chosen by God

<sup>5</sup> *because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.*

### 2). The Gospel is not just words. It comes with power.

*You know how we lived among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. <sup>7</sup> And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.*

How did they influence others? Two ways:

### 1). They had an example to follow.

### 2) They welcomed the message.

*You know how we lived among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. <sup>7</sup> And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.*

<sup>8</sup> *The Lord's message rang out from you  
Faith in God has become known everywhere. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,*

I need to BE \_\_\_\_\_ so I CAN BE \_\_\_\_\_