**Title: Sharing the Wealth**

*Is each of our responsibility!*

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

What made the difference in the church in Thessalonica?  They had been effectively discipled!

Sharing the 'wealth' requires:

1. Total reliance on God - exhibited through obedience (2:2)

-"with the **HELP OF OUR GOD** we **DARED TO TELL**you his gospel..."

-never forget where our help comes from, Ps. 121:1, Matt. 28:20

-What is preventing us from sharing the Gospel?

2.  Understanding the significance of our identity and our responsibility (2:4)

-"we speak as those **APPROVED BY GOD** to be **ENTRUSTED** with the gospel."

-Paul (Saul) was chosen by God (Acts 9:15) and commissioned for service (Rom. 1:1)

-Every believer is chosen by God and commissioned to gospel service (2 Cor.17-20)

-What is Christ's return on investment in us related to his commission to make disciples?

3.  Having a genuine love for the family of God (2:7-8)

-This is critical to fulfilling our personal responsibility as a disciple maker (vs. 8)

"**BECAUSE WE LOVED YOU SO MUCH**, we were delighted to **SHARE**... the gospel of God and our lives as well"

-Genuine love in disciple making is accompanied by actions (John 3:16)

-Genuine love in disciple making grows in the context of relationship.

-Do my choices reflect a genuine love for the family of God?  Or am I a distant relative?

4. Living above reproach - exhibiting Godly character (2:10)

- **HOLY, RIGHTEOUS AND BLAMELESS**

- "An example worth following and you do not make the gospel look fake by teaching one thing while doing another." Tim Challis

-Is the life I live in Christ worth following?

5. Wanting the 'best' for each other (2:11-12)

- "That we would **LIVE LIVES WORTHY OF GOD**, who calls us into his kingdom and glory."

-Who in the Calvary family am I encouraging, comforting and urging?

*“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” – Paul (1 Cor. 11:1)*