**

*Winner’s Stand*

On Top the Winner’s Stand!

*1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

1. They Welcomed the Gospel message with Joy v2-5

* The Thessalonians did not Reject the Gospel
* They welcomed the Gospel with Joy in spite of Severe Suffering
* Why did they Receive the Gospel?
* God Chose them to receive it v4
* The Gospel message was Powerful v5

2. They became Imitators of Paul and of Christ v6-7

* What they Saw in Paul, they desired to Develop in themselves
* Christianity: Learning to Become like Jesus Christ
* You may be the only Jesus that your unsaved neighbor might ever meet
* Discipleship: Modeling your life after Christ
* Is your Christianity worth Imitating?

3. They Proclaimed the Gospel to Everyone around them v8-10

* Their Faith became Known in Thessalonica and throughout Macedonia and Achaia
* They were not Seasoned Christians but recently Converted pagans v9
* Question: Who knows about Your Christianity?
* Are you just Surviving? Or are you living Bold?
* Are you Standing for Jesus in the midst of a Dark world?

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