



February 18 & 19, 2012
Ken Long, Senior Pastor

Five qualities of exemplary ministry:

1.

You know how badly we had been treated at Philippi just before we came to you and how much we suffered there. Yet our God gave us the courage to declare his Good News to you boldly, in spite of great opposition.

1 Thessalonians 2:2 (NLT)

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.

Acts 16:22-23

I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. 1 Corinthians 2:3

What is (and isn't) behind Paul's courage?

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.

1 Thessalonians 2:5-6

"The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."

John 8:29

2.

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 2:7-8

3.

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

4.

You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

1 Thessalonians 2:10

5.

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

- The Word _____

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

- The Word _____

For you, brothers and sisters, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus . . .

1 Thessalonians 2:14a

- The Word _____

. . . You suffered from your own people the same things those churches suffered from the Jews

1 Thessalonians 2:14b