

FORWARD BY FAITH
Faith That Goes
Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Be bold.
“But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.” I Thessalonians 2:2

B. Be specific.
“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”
Romans 1:16

IV. INVITE OTHERS TO BECOME FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

“For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.”
I Thessalonians 1:8

We must invite others to be saved and avoid *“the wrath to come”* (1:10d).

A. It is an honor to invite others to Jesus.
“To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,”
Ephesians 3:8

B. It is required to invite others to Jesus.
“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.”
I Corinthians 3:6

DO YOU HAVE A FAITH THAT GOES?

“For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.”
I Thessalonians 1:8

A. Welcome to a new year! A new year represents progress. However, God has called us not to just move forward. He commands us to move forward by faith! The Bible says,

“For we walk by faith, not by sight” II Corinthians 5:7

What is faith? Faith is confident obedience to the Word of God regardless of circumstances or consequences.

Faith in God fuels spiritual growth. You are either moving forward by faith or backward by fear.

B. Our Forward By Faith teaching series will show you how to trust God more and achieve your goals. The messages include:

Jan 10	Faith That Saves
Jan 17	Faith That Emboldens
TODAY	Faith That Goes
Jan 31	Faith That Unites
Feb 7	Faith That Grows

C. **TEXT:** I Thessalonians 1:1-10

FAITH THAT GOES

I. GIVE TO SEND MISSIONARIES WHO GO

“Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” I Thessalonians 1:1

Missionaries who are called by God to go must be sent out by churches who provide financial support.

A. The Apostle Paul started the church in Thessalonica.

“1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews.

2 Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.”

4 And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas.” Acts 17:1-4

B. The church at Philippi financially supported Paul at Thessalonica.

“15 Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

16 For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.

17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.” Philippians 4:15-17

II. PRAY FOR OTHERS TO BECOME FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,” I Thessalonians 1:2

Pray God will give others spiritual wisdom and revelation about Jesus.

A. Pray God will give others spiritual wisdom and revelation about Jesus.

“16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”

Ephesians 1:16-17

B. Pray for F.R.A.N.’S:

- Friends
- Relatives
- Associates
- Neighbors

III. TELL OTHERS THAT YOU ARE A FOLLOWER OF JESUS

“5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,” I Thessalonians 1:5-6

Tell others with your life and your lips.