

WEEK 2- A LIFE THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

1. A LIFE THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF HAS PURE MOTIVES
2. A LIFE THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF EMBODIES REAL CHANGE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of the teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Describe a time when someone seemed intent on questioning your motives or damaging your reputation. How did that experience impact you? How did you respond?
3. The first main idea this week was that “A Life that Speaks for Itself has Pure Motives”. Motives are a tricky thing because so often we can do all kinds of right things for all kinds of wrong reasons and sometimes we don’t even realize it. Of the three common ulterior motives that Paul mentions in 1 Thess. 2:5-6 (power, possessions, or praise) which one do you find motivating your actions most often? What do you do in those moments when you realize your motives are less than pure?
4. Paul’s ability to live a life that spoke for itself came from his understanding of how God sees him. If you could see yourself through God’s eyes, what do you think you would see?
5. Intentions that never translate to actions don’t mean anything. Paul didn’t just preach a message, he lived it. Are there any situations in your life right now where you have an opportunity to turn your good intentions into actual actions? What is your plan to make this a reality?
6. In Jesus, we receive the verdict before the performance. This means that our approval from God does not depend on us. Instead, it depends completely on Jesus. How does this truth impact you? What are some things you can stop doing because of the acceptance you have in Jesus? What are some things you can start doing because of the acceptance you have in Jesus?
7. Pastor Ryan announced that a young man gave his life to Jesus at church last week! This man’s life has been completely changed by Jesus and it all started because a friend simply invited him to church. Who can you invite to church this week? What are some ways that you, as their friend, could make their visit less intimidating?