

Series: Got Journey?
Loving God Sunday
Message: Our *Adoration* of the Savior
Text: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (AM 1/08/17)

Accompanied by Silas and Timothy, the Apostle Paul planted the Church in Thessalonica on his second missionary journey. Thessalonica was the chief city of Macedonia and seat of Rome's provincial government. It was a thriving city of commerce situated in a chief port and astride the Via Egnatia.

The young church prospered and Paul wrote this endearing letter of encouragement to the congregation from Corinth. The Apostle's instruction gives us wonderful insight into the attributes on a fully devoted Christ follower. Today, we explore the characteristics of a disciple *Loving God* on the Journey.

1st Lovers are Won to Christ (4-5) “*Knowing.... your election by God*”

Key: Have you found Jesus?

2nd Lovers are Wholly Christ's (6a; 9) “*You became followers...of the Lord*”

Key: Are you following Jesus?

3rd Lovers are Worshippers of Christ (6b) “*Having received the Word...*”

Key: Are you fascinated with Jesus?

4th Lovers are Witnesses for Christ (7; 3) “*You became examples to all...*”

Key: Are you focused on Jesus?

5th Lovers are Winners for Christ (8) “*From you the Word...has sounded*”

Key: Are you finding others to bring to Jesus?

6th Lovers are Watchful for Christ (10) “*Wait for His Son from Heaven...*”

Key: Are you fixated on Jesus' Kingdom?

Application to life: The first step of the Journey or discipleship process is being *passionately in love* with Jesus. *Loving God* isn't simply a cute phrase; it should be an *all-consuming passion*. Would those who know you best say that you *Love God and Adore the Savior*? If you have *cause for pause*, take inventory of Paul's list of attributes and surrender every area to Him.