

Series: Got Journey?
Message: Our *Attitude* Toward the Sinner
Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-19 (AM 1/31/17)

The Apostle Paul ends his letter to his beloved congregation at Thessalonica with an urgent reminder to *live life on purpose*. The first century Christians felt that *Jesus' return* was imminent. So, Paul gives the ancient and contemporary Church incredible insight into the coming *Day of the Lord*. The Apostle's instructions serve as an insightful description of a *Witness*. Let's explore the *unthinkable joy* we have, being witnesses of the *unsearchable riches* of the Gospel. Our text serves as a wonderful blueprint for building *Relationships* with the lost, enabling us to engage them in *Gospel conversations*.

1st Witnesses are alert to the Season (1-4) "You...know...Day of the Lord"

- Know the *hour* is late.

2nd Witnesses allow Him to Shine (5-7) "You are all sons of light...watch!"

- Remember the *Hope* is within us.

3rd Witnesses arm as a Soldier (8-9) "Put on the breastplate of faith & love..."

- Prepare for your *hour*.

4th Witnesses ardently Support (10-11) "Comfort...and edify one another"

- Let us *help* one another.

5th Witnesses approve their Shepherds (12-13) "Esteem them very highly..."

- Let us *honor* those who lead.

6th Witnesses actively Share (14-15) "Warn...Pursue what is good...for all"

- Let us share the *Hope*.

7th Witnesses affirm the Spirit (16-19) "Do not quench the Spirit..."

- Don't *hinder* the Spirit.

Application to life: Paul, like Jesus, assumed that disciples would *make* disciples. A disciple of Christ is a *Witness* for Christ. Have you embraced Paul's description of a Witness (Ch 5) living life on purpose? Has God, through His Word, revealed an area in your life that's lacking? Don't quench the Spirit! Witnesses Believe He is *Coming*; Belong to His *Church* and Bring others to *Christ*!