

“Stop Settling!”

Everyday Saints – Jeffrey D. Burr

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

September 23, 2018

A Good Report

- They were continuing to follow Jesus – as evidenced by their faith and love.

Hebrews 11:25–27 (NIV) – *He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.*

A Good Report

- They were continuing to follow Jesus – as evidenced by their faith and love.
- They thought well of Paul and longed to see him.

A Grateful Response

A Growing Request

1. We should continue to grow in faith.
2. We should increase and abound in love.

- a. This love is informed by our relationship to our God and Father.
- b. This love is achieved through the work of Jesus our Master.
- c. This love should grow in intensity and scope.

- d. This love should be directed to both believers and unbelievers.
- e. This love requires us to sacrifice for the good of others.
- f. This love is the means by which the believer is prepared to stand before God.
- g. This love is motivated by the sobering return of Jesus.

Revelation 2:1–4 (NIV) *To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance.*

*I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false.
3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.*