

1-2 Thessalonians: Living the Future Now

“The Art of Church Construction”

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

How do you build a great church? How do you recognize a great church? What traits characterize a great church? Paul knew the answers to these questions and he often pointed to the church at Thessalonica as an example of a great church. Such a church is not defined by size or programming. Rather, a great church demonstrates a faithfulness that pleases God.

1. A Great Church Identified (vv.1, 2)

- **By Position (v.1)**

- **By Prayer (v.2)**

2. A Great Church Qualified (vv.3-6)

- **By Election: “your work produced by faith” (vv.4, 5a)**

- **By Example: “your labor prompted by love” (vv.5b, 6a)**

- **By Expectation: “your endurance inspired by hope” (v.6b)**

3. A Great Church Magnified (vv.7-10)

- **By Modeling God’s Message (vv.7, 8a)**

- **By Ministering God’s Grace (vv.8b, 9a)**

- **By Maintaining God’s Promise (vv.9b, 10)**