

Grow deeper with God by:

- We have to move from knowing to becoming
- We have to move from observing to yielding our lives and following His example and leading.

Deeper than knowledge

• (1Jn 2:4) Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

• (1Jn 2:5) but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

• (1Jn 2:6) whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Abiding: The Message and the Man

• (1Th 1:5) because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

• (1Th 2:1) For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain.

• (1Th 2:2) But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.

• 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith

• 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith

God endures and fights for us

(Isa 43:1) But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

• 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith

As a disciple Paul endured

• (2Co 12:9) But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

• 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith

- (1Th 2:2) But though <u>we</u> had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, <u>we</u> had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.
- (1Th 2:3) For <u>our</u> appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive,
- (1Th 2:4) but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.
- (1Th 2:5) For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness.
- (1Th 2:6) Nor did <u>we</u> seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though <u>we</u> could have made demands as apostles of Christ.
- (1Th 2:7) But <u>we</u> were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children.

- 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith
- 2) God provides a team, "a body" of believers

• (1Th 2:5) For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness.

• (1Th 2:13) And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

- 1) Abiding will require endurance in the faith
- 2) God provides a team, "a body" of believers
- 3) Abide in the simple gospel through obedience

• (Act 13:38) Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,

• (Act 13:39) and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.