

Three Powerful Distinctives of Christians

Message 24 May 2020 | Notes from Warren White

Londoners honouring, applauding from their balconies, windows, doors the amazing efforts of frontline essential services.
Repeated over !!

Caring hearts, Selflessness, Courage in face of real danger

Young Church experiencing a city wide pandemic of hatred, accused of treasonous ideas!

Apostle Paul, separated from his friends, was aware of what was happening, and was excited about Them

(1Thess 1:2)

"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers"

What an awesome way to serve each other !

Heaven's grandstands filled with the Saints applauding & cheering us all on

Three Amazing Qualities Worthy of Applauding

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| 1. <i>Their Incredible Work of Faith</i> | <i>Delight in Understanding</i> |
| 2. <i>Their Impacting Witness of Love</i> | <i>Joy in Tough Situations</i> |
| 3. <i>Their Inspired Waiting for Jesus</i> | <i>Stick-ability to keep Going</i> |

(1Thess 1:3)

We remember before our God and Father your **work produced by faith**, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"work produced by faith"

"how you turned to God from idols" (:9)

Idol = anything put in the place of God in our lives

Whatever we look too, instead of looking to God

1. Their Incredible Work of Faith *Enjoyment Of God*

"The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever"

*"The chief end of man is to glorify God **By enjoying Him forever**"*

Completely Convinced of God (:4)

"For we know, brothers and sisters ^b loved by God, that he has chosen you"

*because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also **with power**,*

(dynamis [English dynamite] dynamite destroys, dynamis gives life)

with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction (:5)

(Rom 10:17) The Message brings faith into our experience

"faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."

(Heb 11:6) "and without faith it is impossible to please God.."

Fully Satisfied with All that God is for us in Jesus !

Willingly Trusting God no matter what happens !

Changed lives For God (:6)

*" You became **imitators of us and of the Lord**, for you welcomed the message*

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2. Their Impacting Witness of Love Evangelising With God

"your labour prompted by love"

"to serve the living and true God," (:9)

Examples to Surrounding Community (:7)

*"And so you became a **model to all the believers** in Macedonia and Achaia."*

Enthusiastic Witnesses to All (:8)

*"**The Lord's message rang out from you** not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere."*

3. Their Inspired Waiting for Jesus Enduring Through God

"your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (:3)

"to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead— Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath." (:10)

Cheerful Endurance in Suffering (:6)

*" in the **midst of severe suffering with the joy** given by the Holy Spirit"*

Confident Expectation of Future Deliverance (:10)