

“Satan’s Challenges To The Faith Of A New Convert”

Lesson Text: **1 Thessalonians 3:1-5.**

I. Family Pressure To Leave The Faith.

- The Family May Be Strongly Opposed To The Conversion To Christ.
- Jesus Knew This Would Happen- **Matthew 10:34-36.**
- But If Someone Gives In To Such Pressure- **Matthew 10:37-39.**
 - Pressure To Disown/Have Nothing To Do With The New Christian.
 - Take Them Out Of Their Will And Inheritance.
 - Mock And Belittle Their Faith Constantly.
- Why Would They Treat Them This Way?
 - They Believe Differently Than They Do Now.
 - They Feel The New Christian Has Gone Against The Family Way.
 - They Feel Condemned By The Christian Doing Right- **Hebrews 11:7; John 3:19-20.**
- But We Must Listen To Jesus- **Matthew 10:21-23.**

II. Satan’s Power To Discourage.

- In Satan’s Tool Box— His Greatest Tool Is Discouragement!
- What Discouragement Can Do:
 1. Weakens Our Faith.
 2. Stops Our Zeal For God.
 3. Destroys Our Resolve To Do Right.
- Causes Of Discouragement:
 - Unreal Expectations— Think It Will Be Very Easy...
 - Difficulties In The Way- **Mark 4:3-8; 4:14-17. 1 Thessalonians 3:3-4.**
 - Weariness- **Hebrews 12:3-4; 2 Thessalonians 3:13.**
- What To Do When We Are Discouraged?
 - Consider What Jesus Endured For Us- **Hebrews 12:3.**
 - Talk With Brothers And Sisters In Christ- **Acts 16:40; Romans 1:10-12.**
 - Pray About It- **Hebrews 5:7.**

III. Lack Of Purpose And Direction.

- **Matthew 28:19-20**, We Are To Baptize And Teach Them How To Live....
- New Converts Need Knowledge And Training In Christ’s Ways.
- This Involves The Whole Church Taking An Active Part In Helping & Encouraging!
- **Titus 2:1-8.** Older Christians Must Be Good Examples & Teach The New Convert!
- **1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18;** But When There’s A Lack Of Growing—There’s A Danger!
- **2 Peter 1:4-11.**

IV. Worldliness Overtakes Them Again.

- We Must Fill Our Lives With The New Life In Christ- **Matthew 12:43-45.**
- Peer Pressure May Be Effective- **1 Corinthians 15:33; Romans 12:2.**
- Revival Of Past Sins- **Acts 8:9-13; 18-24.** Simon’s Old Way! **2 Peter 2:20-22.**
- Danger Of Falling Away- **Hebrews 3:12-15; 2 Timothy 4:10.**