

## **The Benefits of Imitating Godly Leaders**

1 Thess. 1: 4-10

### **1. Recognizable Results (4-5a)**

- a. "Know" – certainty of their salvation
- b. "chosen" or "election"
  - 1. Refers to all who place their faith in Christ
  - 2. We are not *begudgingly* saved, God **wants** us all to be saved
  - 3. He knows who will believe (1Pet. 1:1-2a)
- c. The gospel notably impacted them (Heb. 4:12)

### **2. Passively Proclaiming (5b-9)**

- a. They chose to imitate Paul's faithfulness
  - i. 1 Cor. 11:1 ; Phil 3:17
- b. And imitate Christ (1 Pet. 2:21)
- c. Affliction – turning to Christ would bring worldly trouble
  - i. Their trust was in the sovereignty of God
- d. Their lifestyle set the example for others
  - i. 2 Cor. 8:1-8
  - ii. Their faith is known in surrounding nations, and further
- e. Their testimonies are known all over
  - i. The change from serving idols to the God of the universe

### **3. Astonishing Assurance (10)**

- a. Waiting for Christ's return
  - i. Knowing we will undoubtedly be in His kingdom
- b. Christ who conquered the power of death has saved us
- c. Saved from wrath
  - i. Tribulation
  - ii. Eternity separated from God
  - iii. All believers, chosen by God, are saved from God's just wrath