

Notes from 1 Thessalonians – Chapter 2

In this chapter, Paul is refuting allegations made about him to the church in Thessalonica, and by his answers to the allegations about the type of ministry he is NOT doing; we can glean the type of ministry that should be done. For the discussion that follows we should define a “minister” as one who ministers in God’s name to others. Of course this is Pastors, Teachers, Elders, and other church leaders. In many ways we are all ministers so these attributes are for all of us.

Verse - 1 Thess. Chapter 2	A Godly Minister...	Observations
2:3	Speaks the truth and has pure motives in doing so	No half truths and no agendas
2:4	Seeks to please God, not people	Clearly doing God’s will and God’s truth with no compromise
2:5	Does not flatter; is not greedy	Not a manipulator
2:6	Does not seek people’s praises	No grandstanding or self aggrandizing
2:7	Is gentle, like a nursing mother caring for her children	Puts her life on hold for the higher calling of children (or believers)
2:8	Loves the believers and willingly shares both his life and the Gospel with them	Is not aloof but willingly mixes and shares his life with the flock
2:9	Works hard so as not to be a burden to anyone while sharing the Good News	Not a slacker, but is visible to all that he earns his money
2:10	Is Pure, honest, and faultless toward believers	No psycho-babble to deceive believers
2:11	Treats the believer as a good father would treat his children	Be an example not just in word but in deed
2:12	Willingly pleads, encourages, and urges believers to live in a way Worthy of God’s calling	Includes discipline as necessary

Of course this is not an exhaustive list of attributes but is a great start.