

THE FATHERLY PASTOR

1 Thessalonians 2:9-12

PAT NEMMERS

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Mark Twain said, "Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life."
 - *Tell your group about your favorite job you've had. What did/do you love about it?*
 - *Have you ever had a job you didn't like? Why didn't you like it?*

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time you met. Anything you need to follow up on as a group?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12. In his message, Pastor Pat gave us **seven observations about the character to look for in a pastor**.

The Fatherly Pastor:

- 1. Takes the clock out of his schedule (vs. 9)**
 - Ministry is not a place for those who watch the clock. *Talk about a time when a pastor, staff member, or Cell Group leader has been there when you needed them.*
- 2. Stands out for all to see (vs. 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 11)**
 - In 1 Timothy 3:7, Paul tells Timothy that ministry leaders "must have a good testimony among those who are outside." *As a group, talk about the reasons why pastors and other leaders must have a good reputation to those outside the church. What is at stake if their reputation isn't good?*
- 3. Ministers out of every season of his life (2 Timothy 4:2)**
 - "Some of your greatest opportunities to glorify God in Heaven will occur during some of your greatest struggles on Earth." *How have you found this to be true in your own life? What are some of the struggles God has allowed in your life that you could use to minister to others?*
- 4. Pours out from the overflow of his heart**
 - A wise leader communicates love and compassion out of the well of love and compassion God has given them. *What might happen in the pastor's life if his well of God's love runs dry?*
- 5. Comes out to encourage God's people (vs. 12)**
 - Pastors encourage their flocks by caring, confronting, and challenging people to be more like Jesus. Turn it around - how can you encourage your leaders in a specific way this week?
- 6. Looks out for lurking enemies (vs. 12)**
 - *From what you know about our staff and leaders, how do they protect our flock like a shepherd?*
- 7. Points out the calling in which we are called (1 Thessalonians 2:12)**
 - Are you sure of your own call of salvation? Can you say for sure that you are a Christian? If so, are you living a life on Earth that is worthy of the calling you've accepted?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your Saylorville staff will be characterized by Paul's heartbeat in 1 Thessalonians 2.

