

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

Receiving Your Word

I want you to be able to do your work in me. I don't want anything I do or don't do to hinder your work in me. **That's good.** It sounds to me like you already know what will hinder my work in you. **By the way, that is not a guess on my part.** Yes, I know that you know my thoughts even before I think them. **Yes, I do. Nevertheless, it is my joy to listen to you. I like to hear your thoughts. So, tell me your thoughts.** I value your thoughts and words. When I say, I value them, I mean that nothing is of higher value to me than your word. I hope my life demonstrates my belief. **How so?** Well, I am richly receiving your word into my heart and mind and life on a daily basis. I have set aside a time and a place to meet with you in your word. I am allowing your word to dwell in me richly. You have my full attention. I am listening very carefully to everything you have to say to me. **Yes, you are and that is very good. Your life does demonstrate that my word is of the highest value to you.** For that, I am very thankful.

Does it trouble you knowing that many of my followers spend very little time in my word? Does it concern you that many of my followers are not allowing my word to work in them? Yes, it does. I think it is a trick and trap of the devil to try to convince your followers that receiving your word is not all that important. **What is most troubling and concerning to you about my followers not spending time meeting with me in my word?** You use your word to mold and shape. You use your word to guard and guide. You use your word to teach and train. You use your word to strengthen and empower. You use your word change hearts and transforms minds. I don't know how you can do these things apart from your followers receiving your word. Although, I do know that with you all things are possible. **That's true.** I wouldn't want my life with you to be short circuited by my not meeting with you and receiving your word. I would not wish that to be the case in anyone else's life either. **No, you wouldn't and that is very good. Keep on praying. Keep on writing. Keep on proclaiming my word.** Yes Lord, I will.

Lord, I want you to be able to do your work in me. I know that one of the most vital and important tools you use to work in my life is your word. Therefore, I will make sure I am richly receiving your word into my life day by day as I love, follow and serve you. Amen

Becoming Like Christ *At Work In You*

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

NIV 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *To Work In You*

Therefore, we never stop thanking God that when you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe.

NLT 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *At Work In You*

We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

NRSV 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *At Work In You*

And we also [especially] thank God continually for this, that when you received the message of God [which you heard] from us, you welcomed it not as the word of [mere] men, but as it truly is, the Word of God, which is effectually at work in you who believe [exercising its superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on it].

AMP 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *Performs Its Work In You*

For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

NASB 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *At Work In You*

And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

ESV 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *Works In You*

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

NKJV 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *At Work In You*

And now we look back on all this and thank God, an artesian well of thanks! When you got the Message of God we preached, you didn't pass it off as just one more human opinion, but you took it to heart as God's true word to you, which it is, God himself at work in you believers!

MSG 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *Changed Your Lives*

And we will never stop thanking God for this: that when we preached to you, you didn't think of the words we spoke as being just our own, but you accepted what we said as the very Word of God—which, of course, it was—and it changed your lives when you believed it.

TLB 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Becoming Like Christ *Works In You*

Also, we always thank God because when you heard his message from us, you accepted it as the word of God, not the words of humans. And it really is God's message which works in you who believe.

NCV 1 Thessalonians 2:13

At Work In You

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – 1 Thessalonians 2:13

In Context: *Read 1 Thessalonians 2*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I want you to be able to do your work in me. I know that one of the most vital and important tools you use to work in my life is your word. Therefore, I will make sure I am richly receiving your word into my life day by day as I love, follow and serve you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you making it your daily practice to richly receive God's word into your life?

Why is it critically essential for you to continue to richly receive God's word into your life?

Why can you be completely confident that God will use His word to do His work in you?

Why will God's word most likely do its work in you over time rather than over night?

Why can you be sure the devil would like you to think that God's word is not all that important?

How have your thoughts, words and actions changed as a result of God's word doing its work in you?

How have your beliefs and values changed as a result of God's word doing its work in you?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Richly receive God's word into your life so He can do His work in you.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that God will use His word to do His work in you.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you are receiving God's word into your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you receive God's word into your life so He can do His work in you.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will receive your word into my life so you can do your work in me.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how will you use your word to do your work in me today?
