

# What A Church Should Be

(1 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

- Introduction:
1. Paul set himself up as an example to follow (1 Corinthians 11:1).
  2. In 1 Thessalonians, we see several characteristics of Paul that we should all as individuals and collectively, as a church should embrace.
  3. Let's identify several of those qualities this evening.

## I. Be Biblical

- A. (1 Thessalonians 2:1-4).
- B. His life was firmly fixed on the importance of Scripture.
- C. (2 Timothy 4:2-4).
- D. (Galatians 4:16).
- E. (Hosea 4:6).
- F. (Matthew 24:35).

## II. Be Authentic

- A. (1 Thessalonians 2:5-6).
- B. (Philippians 1:15-16).
- C. (1 Timothy 6:5).

## III. Be Gracious

- A. (1 Thessalonians 2:7-11).
- B. Are we more abrasive and judgmental than we are compassionate and tolerant?
- C. Paul not only preached, but he gave his life.
- D. (Micah 6:8)
- E. (James 2:13).

## IV. Be Relevant

- A. (1 Thessalonians 2:12).
- B. There must be a link between our walk and our talk.
- C. (Romans 2:1-24).
- D. (Ephesians 4:1; Colossians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:12).
- E. Christianity must become more than theological arguments, but it must become a practical way of life if it is to be accepted.

- Conclusion:
1. Let's strive to embrace these qualities.
  2. In so doing, we'll be what Jesus wants and needs us to be.