

Labor Day Life

Text: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

“We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- i. Paul remembered their work
 - a. Their work was produced by faith
 - 1. Faith without works is dead (James 2)
 - 2. Works do not produce faith
 - b. Those working without faith miss the point
 - 1. The Christian life must stem from our faith
 - 2. Without faith it is impossible to please God
- ii. Their labor was because of their love
 - a. Love gave them the desire to labor
 - b. We cannot be the church without love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)
- iii. Their endurance was because of their hope
 - a. Without Christ we are defeated
 - b. Our hope carries us on because we know that one day we will be rewarded

Notice the three gifts mentioned in 1 Thessalonians 1:3—faith, love and hope

Parallel with 1 Corinthians 13:13—the greatest gift is love. We cannot labor without love and there is no greater gift.

Labor in love, use your gifts for God and always remember that His commands lead to life.