



## “Standing Strong”

*When Hope Goes Missing*  
*II Thessalonians 1:1-5*

*Hope is renewed by our:*

### **I. Faith** – “that your faith grows exceedingly” (vs. 1-3)

*A faith that is:*

**A. Grateful** – “to thank God always for you”

**B. Genuine** – “as it is meet”

**C. Growing** - “grows exceedingly”

### **II. Fellowship** - “in the churches of God” (vs. 3-4)

*A fellowship that is:*

**A. Compassionate** – “and the charity of every one”

**B. Contagious** - “every one of you all toward each other”

**C. Commendable** - “So that we ourselves glory in you”

### **III. Fidelity** - “that you may be counted worthy” (vs. 4-5)

*A fidelity that comes with:*

**A. Perseverance** – “tribulations that you endure”

**B. Proof** - “manifest token of the righteous judgment of God”

**C. Persecution** – “for which you also suffer”

## Sentence Sermon:

*“Hope goes missing when we lose track of  
God’s promises, precepts & people.”*

## Additional Verses

- *I Thessalonians 3:10*
- *I Corinthians 3:11-13*
- *Titus 2:12-13*
- *Ephesians 4:1*
- *Acts 15:39-41*
- *Acts 16:9:*
- *Acts 17:1-4, 10-11*
- *Acts 18:1-5*

## Timothy

- *Acts 16:1; 17:14-15; 18:5; 19:22; 20:4; Romans 16:21*
- *I Corinthians 4:17; 16:10; II Corinthians 1:1, 19; Philippians 1:1; 2:19; Colossians 1:1; I Thessalonians 3:2, 6; II Thessalonians 1:1; I & II Timothy; Philemon 1:1; Hebrews 13:23*

## Silas

- *Acts 15:22, 27, 32, 40; 16:19, 25, 29; 17:4, 10, 14, 15; 18:5*
- *II Corinthians 1:19; I & II Thessalonians 1:1*

## Questions to Ponder:

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who is the central character of the passage?
3. What is your favorite thing about Paul, Silas, or Timothy?
4. Why was Paul obligated to thank God for them? Are we?
5. How does it make you feel when you observe believers suffering?
6. What makes you lose hope sometimes?
7. What helps you endure persecution and tribulations?
8. How does the reality of the “bema seat” strengthen your resolve?
9. When was a period of great growth in your spiritual life?
10. How important is hope? Why is that? What is your hope?