



**Message Date:** May 7, 2023

**Message Text:** 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

**Message Title:** Resonate: Our Joy & Crown

**Big Idea:** Living in community is worth the cost.

**Questions:**

1. When has being in community with other believers been difficult?
2. Share about a time community was very impactful in your life. What made the community valuable?
3. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5. What are all the ways Paul demonstrated what it means to be in community with others?
4. What does Paul mean when he says the Thessalonians are his hope, glory, and joy?
5. Paul talks about the deep longing he has for those in the church. Have you felt a longing to support others in their brokenness? How did this compassion and empathy impact your relationship?
6. What is the focus of how you tend to celebrate others? What would you say is your conduit of joy and celebration?
7. Paul had a deep longing for the church in Thessalonica, to see if they were struggling in their faith due to the persecution they were facing. Have you ever felt similar concern and anguish for someone you loved?
8. Paul, Silas, and others sent Timothy to strengthen and encourage the church with truth. When has truth strengthened or encouraged you in your faith, especially in hard times of criticism or persecution?
9. What impact has your community at Meadowbrook had on you?
10. What are the commitments you must share to have a strong, Christ-centered community?



# RESONATE

BRYAN MARVEL · 1 THESSALONIANS 2:17 - 3:5

IS BEING IN COMMUNITY WORTH THE COST?

- ① **LIFE IN COMMUNITY IS DIFFICULT**  
Being in community can be tough at times — there is a COST involved because you are opening your life to others in that community.
- ② **THERE IS ALSO JOY AND CELEBRATION IN COMMUNITY**  
A crown (stefanos) of achievement of joy and hope that we in community can experience and CELEBRATE victories!
- ③ **COMMUNITY REQUIRES COMMITMENT**  
When things get hard in community it requires commitment and encouragement in the difficult times.
- ④ **TRUTH-TELLING IS CRITICAL IN COMMUNITY**  
We rely on those in our community is being TRUTHFUL to each other sometimes when we don't want to hear it — but NEED IT.

LIVING IN COMMUNITY IS WORTH THE COST!