

New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church

newhebronlr.org

Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr.
Bible Study

*“...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which
are able to make thee wise unto salvation...”
(2 Tim. 3:15)*



Compassionate Leadership

{1 Thessalonians 2:7-9}

Paul is under attack again! This seems to be his lot in life. He was always under constant scrutiny from unjust critics. But rather than allow his difficulties to allow him to burn out and give up, he always found strength in the Lord {Eph. 6:10}. It's been said that if you're thinking about giving up serving God that you should remember why you started serving Him in the first place. Paul shows us good leadership because he didn't allow the pressure of dealing with carnal men make him become bitter and abusive.

Paul's personal appeal to them: v.1) *“For yourselves...know”*, v.2) *“as ye know”*, v.5) *“as ye know”*, v.9) *“For ye remember”*, v.10) *“Ye are witnesses”*, v.11) *“As ye know”*

- Paul is encouraging them to remember their experiences with him and he reminds them that they have seen his life and character.
 - This has never been something that Paul enjoyed doing because he never wanted to appear prideful. {2 Cor. 12:2-4}
- v.7) *“But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children.”*
- “But” – (an adversative) a word of contrast used here to combat the false allegations against him.
 - The testimony of a leader is important, so important that Paul teaches us to defend ourselves so that our service to God is not depreciated in the eyes of others and people begin to devalue spiritual things. {1 Samuel 2:12-17}
 - “gentle” – [Grk.] (*epios*): placid, mild, easy, or compliant. This word was often used in the Greek language to describe medicines as soothing.

