

What are the Characteristics of a Pioneer?

Paul's planting of the church in Thessalonica give us a unique picture of the life of a pioneer, as well as the first step in church planting. As a pioneer, method and program does not come first, but life and character, nor is it an I, but a WE. Going through chapter 2 in Paul's first letter to the church in Thessalonica, we will clarify the most important issues in a church planter's life.

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1. The power of WE (1 Thessalonians 2,1-10)

- a. Paul, Silvanus and Timothy

2. Giving the gospel and our own life (1. Thessalonians 2,8)

- a. No bounding - no transfer

3. Discipleship is transferring life

- a. Passion (2,9)
- b. Purity (2,10)
- c. Purpose (2,4)
- d. Persistent (2,1-2)
- e. Power (1,5; 2,13)

Paul's church planting was characterised by: Leadership/Leaders that **gave themselves** to imperfect people. By the example of their own life in **passion, purity, purpose, persistent and power**, they were bound to the people and transferring their own life with Christ to the new converts, leading them to the cross and helping make them productive through their **obedience to the Word**, and their walk in the **Holy Spirit**.