

**"LIVING IN THE WORLD – AIMING FOR HEAVEN"
(A Church Alive)
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Greater Hope Community Church
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THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT MAKE UP THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH:

**Worship
Fellowship
Discipleship
Ministry
Evangelism**

BUT WHAT MAKES A CHURCH TRULY ALIVE?

A CHURCH ALIVE:

(1) HAS A _____ WHICH IS EXTREME.

This letter is from Paul, Silas, and Timothy.

We are writing to the church in Thessalonica, to you who belong to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

²May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

³Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, **because your faith is flourishing...** (2 Thessalonians 1:1-3a NLT)

The word "Flourishing" in Greek means "to grow to the extreme limit."

...for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God.
(1 Thessalonians 1:8c NLT)

(2) HAS A _____ WHICH IS ABUNDANT.

...and your love for one another is **growing**. (2 Thessalonians 1:3b NLT)

The word "Growing" in Greek means "To increase considerably the extent of an activity or state, with the implication of the result being an abundance."

* If we are abundant in love, we do not wait for people to _____ in order to fellowship with us. We invite people to fellowship with us so that _____ them.

(3) HAS AN _____ WHICH NEVER GIVES UP.

We proudly tell God's other churches about your **endurance** and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering. ⁵ And God will use this persecution to show his justice and to make you worthy of his Kingdom, for which you are suffering. (2 Thessalonians 1:4-5 NLT)

The word "Endurance" in Greek means "the capacity to continue to bear up under difficult circumstances."

* Churches that _____ ALWAYS come out better than they were before.

NEXT STEPS:

- PRAY FOR THE SPIRITUAL AND NUMERICAL GROWTH OF GREATER HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH.**
- MAKE A DECISION TO OFFER EVERY PERSON WHO COMES THROUGH OUR DOORS UNCONDITIONAL AND NON-JUDGMENTAL LOVE.**
- COMMIT TO ENDURE WITH GHCC IN WHATEVER CHALLENGES AND STRUGGLES MAY COME OUR WAY.**