

# When the Community is Disconnected

1THS 2:13-3:17

## INTRODUCTION:

separation anxiety



✪ Our hearts are naturally anxious for loved ones who are \_\_\_\_\_ from us.

- A. Paul wrote a letter to a fledgling church that had “become very dear” (2:8) to him and that he was \_\_\_\_\_ from.
- B. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ over his separation from the Thessalonians. (2:17-20)
  - 1. “We were separated too \_\_\_\_\_.” (2:17a)
  - 2. “We really wanted to get back \_\_\_\_\_ with you.” (2:17b-18)
  - 3. “Our attempts to reunite with you were hindered by \_\_\_\_\_, our very real adversary.” (2:18)
  - 4. “We love you dearly and you are \_\_\_\_\_ to us.” (2:19-20)
- C. Paul was worried about the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of the Thessalonians. (3:1-8)
  - 1. “We sent Timothy to \_\_\_\_\_ and exhort you in these hard times.” (3:1-4)
  - 2. “We sent Timothy to bring a report back on your \_\_\_\_\_ in these hard times.” (3:5)
  - 3. “Timothy’s report was very \_\_\_\_\_ to our ears!” (3:6-8)
- D. Paul prayed for the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of the Thessalonians. (3:9-13)
  - 1. “We are thankful to God for the \_\_\_\_\_ that you have had in the face of adversity.” (3:9-10)
  - 2. “We are praying this \_\_\_\_\_ over you all, often.” (3:11-13)

## CONCLUSION:

**This is the kind of community connections that \_\_\_\_\_ creates.** It's not based on shared hobbies or proximity, but on a shared life in Jesus. And it is the only foundation strong enough to build the kind of love Paul is talking about—a love that makes others become our glory, our crown, and our deepest joy.

## COMMUNION