**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

August 7, 2022

Brian Hummel, Executive Pastor

**Overflow**

**Overflowing with Boldness**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12



**Overflowing** life is a life lived reflecting the characteristics of God.

Devotion – Generosity – Encouragement – Gentleness – Boldness

These characteristics are counter cultural.

Indifference – Self-Serving – Discouraged – Harsh – Timid

A life **not** overflowing is a wasted life. Wasted moments. Wasted impact.

A life **not** overflowing will be largely forgotten.

Do you want to waste your life? Do you want to waste your influence?

Boldness – powered by the Holy Spirit – overflows from believers and changes the world.

Boldness is used in the New Testament in two ways:

* Confidence in God
* Speak freely

How are we to be bold? Let’s look at part of Paul’s letter to the Thessalonians:

*For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain.**But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.*

1 Thessalonians 2:1-2

Boldness comes **from** God.

*And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,**while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*

Acts 4:29-31

Boldness is **revealed** in conflict.

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

Romans 1:16

*For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive,**but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.*

1 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Boldness is **God-centric** … not man-centric.

*The wicked run when no one is chasing them but the righteous are as bold as a lion.*

Proverbs 28:1

*For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ.*

1 Thessalonians 2:5-6

Boldness is not **self**-**serving**, not greedy.

*But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children.*

1 Thessalonians 2:7

Boldness is **nurturing** and loving.

*So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.*

1 Thessalonians 2:8

Boldness is **intimate**.

*For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and* *day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.*

1 Thessalonians 2:9

Boldness is **hard work**; it requires diligence.

*You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers.*

1 Thessalonians 2:10

Boldness will come under attack, and a lifetime of boldness can be **undermined** by sin.

*For you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.*

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

Boldness **influences** people to be made in the image of Christ.

Boldness is choosing to be devoted to Christ.

Boldness is choosing to be generous with your life.

Boldness is choosing to be encouraged and an encourager.

Boldness is choosing to be gentle – strength under control.

Boldness is a choice, empowered by the Holy Spirit, that leads to a life overflowing with the character of God in the face of consequences.

Noah Burt – Briley Sherwood Story.