1 Thessalonians Chapter 2 study guide

In verses 1-6 Paul attempts to defend himself and his friends, Silas and Timothy, against the attacks of the Jews, who were endeavoring to portray them as deluded individuals intent on tricking others. If the reputation of the messengers can be damaged, then their message is less likely to be trusted. Considering the cultural context, during that time there were often traveling philosophers who were likely to present themselves in a more charismatic way while taking advantage of the generosity of their students.

1. What events might have caused people to doubt the validity of Paul’s message? (verses 1,2)
2. How do you relate the phenomenon of Romans 8:28-30 with Paul’s, Timothy’s and Silas’ success in establishing the beginning of the church in Thessalonica?
3. What precautions did Paul, Timothy, and Silas take to demonstrate their sincere motivations? (vss 3-11)
4. What did Paul remind them to recall about their relationship? (vs 10-12)
5. What reasons did Paul thank the Thessalonian believers, and what they were experiencing that Paul compared to other Christians? (vss 13-16)
6. What happened that Paul and Silas were unable to return to Thessalonica, and how did they react to the circumstances that prevented their return? (vss 17- 3:5)
7. What similarities do you see that compare to our current society, and what should our reactions be?