**Scripture** | 1 Thessalonians 2:8 | Paul’s Ministry in Thessalonica

This is such a great verse, the context is that Paul is poring out his heart and explaining why they do what they do. The verse reads “so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.” Basically the entire passage is talking about how what they do is different, but this verse really lets the letter-receivers know that they are not some reality TV stars.

This seems to be a common thing in scripture, how people see the “prophets” and think they are exclusive, and they cannot be around them. Paul is saying, that you are included, this is my personal life that I want to share with you. This is a huge deal because it really hits home that they are working alongside Paul. Even though he might be hundreds of miles away, they are still sharing life!

**Observation(s)**

Paul is out doing mission’s work

Paul see’s or hears something about people and writes a letter

He includes many different things including what he’s doing, and why they are doing it

Instead of keeping things personal, he shares and includes the letter-receivers.

By sharing he is showing love

**Application**

Share! Scripture says time and time again the importance of testimonials

Share life with others, allowing them to be a part of what God has in store for you.

Share what you are doing and why you are doing it

Are you doing it for greed, for appearance or for Jesus

**Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father,

I pray that I would never do something in hopes that I would be perceived as something I am not, but would continue to advance Your Kingdom by being selfless and advancing your Gospel. I pray that I would continue to use the power of my testimonial and would never be afraid to share all that You are doing in my life! I pray that I would always be aware of those around me so that I might include them in Your Kingdom Advancement!

In Your Holy Amazing Name,

Amen.

Thanks!  
Koleman Parsley