

1 Thessalonians 1:1–5a ESVUK

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,
³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

God's blueprint for authentic life

The healthy roots of fruitful growth

1 Thessalonians 1:1–5a

Introduction

1. The three hallmarks of a healthy (baby) church

- Work of faith
- Labour of love
- Steadfastness of hope

2. One foundation of a healthy (baby) church

Acts 17:1–10

Conclusion

Questions for discussion and reflection:

- Of what benefit is it to us to have this description of a really healthy young church (both as individuals and as a group of Christians)?
- What has encouraged and/or challenged you from today's 'model' of a healthy church?

Next week: The green shoots of fruitful growth, 1 Thess 1:5b–10, William Taylor