

A Life Pleasing to God

# How many Christians were there in the Roman Empire?

AD 100	10,000
AD 200	200,000
AD 250	1,000,000
AD 300	6,000,000
AD 350	35,000,000

# Early growth of Christian church is noteworthy because:

1. Adverse to polytheism
2. Multiple periods of official persecution
3. Existing religions were well entrenched

**How was the Roman empire  
converted to Christianity?**

**¿Cómo se convirtió el imperio  
romano al cristianismo?**

- “. . . it happened through its acquisition by one person from another through imitation and learning what constituted Christian self-identification.”

-- W. G. RUNCIMAN

- “. . . sucedió a través de su adquisición por parte de una persona de otra a través de la imitación y el aprendizaje de lo que constituía la autoidentificación cristiana.”

**1. Brotherly love**

**1. Amor Fraternal**

## I Thessalonians 4:9

. . . for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another . . .

## 1 Tesalonicenses 4:9

. . . porque vosotros mismos habéis sido enseñados por Dios a amaros unos a otros . . .

## Jesus said

<sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me . . .

(Matthew 25)

## Jesús dijo

<sup>35</sup> Porque tuve hambre, y me disteis de comer; tuve sed, y me disteis de beber; fui forastero, y me recibisteis . . .

(Mateo 25)



1. Brotherly love
2. Live quietly and work

1. Amor Fraternal
2. Vive tranquilo y trabaja

## I Thessalonians 4:11

. . . and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands . . .

## 1 Tesalonicenses 4:11

· · · y a que tengáis por vuestra ambición el llevar una vida tranquila, y os ocupéis en vuestros propios asuntos y trabajéis con vuestras manos . . .

1. **Brotherly love**
2. **Live quietly and work**
3. **walk properly before outsiders**

1. Amor Fraternal
2. Vive tranquilo y trabaja
3. Conduzcáis honradamente para con los de afuera

## **I Thessalonians 4:12**

**12 so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.**

## **1 Tesalonicenses 4:11**

**12 a fin de que os conduzcáis[h] honradamente para con los de afuera, y no tengáis necesidad de nada.**

# Does this plan work?

- Worked in the first three centuries.
- Growth, despite persecution
- Others imitated the example of the persecuted

“A Life Pleasing to God”

“Una vida agradable a Dios”