AUTHENTIC PURSUIT: Everybody Needs Somebody

1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

When we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. ¹⁸ For we wanted to come to you certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us. ¹⁹ For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you?

1 Thessalonians 3:1-2 So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. ² We sent Timothy,

• To know them

1 Thessalonians 3:2-5

We sent Timothy ... to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, ³ so that no one would be <u>unsettled</u> by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them. ⁴ In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless.

To know them
To walk with them in life and faith
To strengthen and encourage but not control

 Resist our need to fix or pacify hard, messy, conflicting emotions.