

1 Thessalonians

Lesson #16, Chapter 5:12-22

Ask the Lord for His help and insight as you study His Word.

1. Like a parent sending his child off to camp for a week, Paul is using these last moments in his letter to remind and encourage the Thessalonians in their relationship with the Lord and each other. In verses 12-13, what does Paul request of them?
2. What do you learn about the Thessalonian leaders from verses 12-13?
3. What are some specific ways you can show your appreciation to your church's leaders for their work?
4. Many people say that commands to live in peace with one another mean that we are to tolerate sin or false teaching for the sake of unity or harmony. What parameters are to guide our peaceable living? See John 15:17-24; 1 Timothy 1:3-5; 6:3-5, 11-12; 2 Timothy 2:22-26; and Titus 3:8-11.
5. Who are Paul's exhortations directed toward in verse 14?
6. What does he urge them to do?

7. Aren't these tasks usually reserved for the pastors to do (just like hospital visitation)? Since Paul addresses the brethren, what does that tell you about your responsibilities to other believers?

8. Define *admonish* [Strong's #3560 (NKJV, NIV *warn*)]. Give a description of someone who is unruly (see Titus 1:6, 10-11).

9. What is to be the tone, purpose, and means of *admonition*? See Acts 20:31-32; Romans 15:14; 1 Corinthians 4:14; Colossians 1:28; 3:16; 2 Thessalonians 3:15.

10. Define *fainthearted* [Strong's #3642 (NIV *timid*)]. What do you learn about the fainthearted from Isaiah 35:3-4; Romans 14:1; 15:1-3; Galatians 6:1-2; Hebrews 12:12?

11. You probably know people in each of the categories mentioned in verse 14. Write down some specific ways to serve them according to these verses.

12. How often are we to seek after what is good for fellow believers—and for all men (verse 15)?

13. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. What do those verses teach you about seeking what is good for another?

14. What 3 things are God's will for you (verses 16-18)?

15. What are some things a believer can always rejoice in?

16. We are to pray continually (the idea is like that of a nagging cough). What are some ways you apply this command? How can you implement this important part of a Christian's walk to a greater degree in your life?

17. A thankful spirit is one of the hallmarks of a believer. Write down 20 things for which you can give thanks to God.

18. In Ephesians 5:18-20 we are told to be filled with the Spirit; Galatians 5:16 says we are to walk by the Spirit; and Galatians 5:18 says we are to be led by the Spirit. How would a believer quench the Spirit? See Galatians 5:17-21.

19. The role of a prophet is to impart God's word to His people. What is our attitude to be toward God's Word (verse 20, also 1 Thessalonians 4:8)?

20. Not only are believers to walk in the Spirit and highly regard God's word, but they are to be discerning. What 3 ways are stated (verses 21-22)?

21. Read again verses 19-22. What is your response to God's word? Do you obey what you learn and know is right to do? How can you grow more discerning when it comes to truth and error? How can you increase your love for that which is good and increase your abhorrence of things that are evil?

22. Verses 12-22 detail the actions of a true believer. What heart attitudes must precede and be present with the actions in these verses?