

“A Year of Thanksliving”



1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

I. Outline of Paul’s Letter to the Thessalonians

The Bible Exposition Commentary

- A. How the Church was Born – 1
- B. How the Church was Nurtured – 2
- C. How the Church was Established – 3
- D. How the Church Should Walk in Holiness, Harmony, Honesty, Hope, and Helpfulness – 4-5

II. It’s All in the Family: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

A. “ _____ ” illustrates the church as a family.

B. Family Leadership:

1. “Appreciate them” = _____ ”

- a. Laboring to exhaustion – “diligently labor”
- b. Leading – “charge over you” – in all spiritual things
- c. Learning – “instruction” in God’s Word
- d. **Hebrews 13:7, 17**
- e. The result of submitting to godly leadership is _____ (5:13).

C. People Who Need People (5:14)

- 1. Admonish the _____.
- 2. Encourage the _____.
- 3. Help the _____.
- 4. Be _____ with everyone.

D. Eight Sharp Staccato Commands for A Sound Spiritual Life – No Exceptions

- 1. _____ - appropriate at all times; a permanent possession
- 2. _____ - deliberate, persistent, regular

3. _____ - in all circumstances; true optimism; complete trust in God; a duty and a privilege; a test of spiritual ingenuity; **Philippians 4:6; Psalm 69:30; 95:2; 100:4; 147:7.**

“This is God’s will for you” – The exhortation rests on the Divine Will. God’s will is all of 5:16-18 – joy, prayer, thankfulness. Our Supreme Example is Christ (**Hebrews 10:7**, “I have come to do Your will.”) We know the will of God is perfect (**Romans 12:2**).

Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 in joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. Why did you rate yourself as you did? How can you grow in these areas?

Why do you think that we are COMMANDED to be thankful? Why do you think thankfulness is important to God?

How does being thankful impact: our mentality? Our testimony? Each other?

4. “Do not quench the Spirit,” by sinning in these areas mentioned in 16-18.
5. Don’t despise sound, intelligible, God-ordained teaching of the Word. The main task of “prophetic utterance” is proclamation; in the past it could also have been predictive.
6. _____ CAREFULLY the preached Word of God (5:20, 21). A call to discernment! This is NOT a critical spirit born of sourness.
7. Embrace good, sound teaching.
8. Abstain from, discard, ignore, and reject unsound doctrinal teaching. “Every form” or “appearance” points to the inventiveness of evil – subtle, deceptive allure. Basic, root evil can take various subtle forms; beware them all!

How can we possibly achieve these heights of exhortations in our weak, fallen, sinful human condition? We cannot! **1 Thessalonians 5:23a**, comforts us by reminding us that only “God Himself” can “sanctify us entirely.” See **Zechariah 4:6; Colossians 1:29**. Rule #1 – without Positional Sanctification (salvation in Christ alone), there cannot be Progressive Sanctification (regular, steady spiritual growth). See **Romans 10:9; Titus 3:5**.



THANKSLIVING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-22



ALL IN THE FAMILY

“Brethren”

illustrates the church
as a family





“APPRECIATE”

“Know your pastor well enough to have an intimate appreciation for them, and respect them for their value to you.”

MacArthur Study Bible

Footnote on 1 Thessalonians 5:12





1 Thessalonians 5:13

The result of knowing, appreciating, submitting to godly leadership is peace, harmony, and unity in your church family.



People Who Need People

Admonish the *unruly*

Encourage the *fainthearted*

Help the *weak*

Do it all with great *patience!*





8 Spiritual Commands

Rejoice – always

Pray – deliberate, persistent

Thankful – in all circumstances



Philippians 4:6

“The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God.”





Reflection Questions

Rate yourself in the “Big Three”

Why is thankfulness a command?

What is the impact of thankfulness?





8 Spiritual Commands

Don't quench the Holy Spirit

Don't despise sound teaching



8 Spiritual Commands

Examine preaching carefully

Embrace good, sound teaching

Abstain, reject unsound teaching



Who is able?

No one! Only “God Himself” is able to “sanctify us completely.” Without Positional Sanctification there cannot be Progressive Sanctification.

1 Thessalonians 5:23a