

I THESSALONIANS 5:12-28

Review your memory verses (I Thessalonians 1:2-4, 1:6, 2:8, 3:2-3, 3:12, 4:11, 4:16-17).

1. Write out last week's verse (I Thessalonians 4:16-17) without looking, after you've reviewed.

Memorize I Thessalonians 5:14-15. Yes \_\_\_\_\_. Said to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Unless you have a reason not to, please memorize these verses out of the NASV as follows:

"And we urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all men. See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all men."

Read I Thessalonians 5:12-28 through slowly and thoughtfully, expressing to the God of all wisdom your need for understanding and obedience.

2. To whom are these words addressed? (See verses 12 and 14.) What does this mean?
3. Verses 12 and 13 convey one unit of thought. What is that thought, in your own words?
4. a. Who are "those who labor (or work) among you?"  
  
b. Why are they to be esteemed?

5. Comment on the phrase "in love" as used here in verse 13.
  
6. How do you think the attitude asked for in verses 12 and 13 is tied in to "live in peace with one another?"
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How can you tell if you are actually carrying out the attitude expressed above?

Reread I Thessalonians 5:14-15.

8. These verses, like verses 12 and 13, are addressed to each one of the community of believers. List the admonitions.

What they are to do    What it means    To whom do they do it    What that means

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

9. Since these things are addressed to each one of the community of believers, what do you see about the work or responsibility of the members of the body of Christ? Aren't these areas the responsibility of only the leadership or pastors? Explain.

10. Where does God want you to step out by faith in one of these areas? Confession and repentance before God may be called for first.

11. How would I Thessalonians 4:11 be a good principle to balance the admonitions in 5:14-15?

Reread I Thessalonians 5:16-18.

12. Three commands are given here:

What are we to do?

When?

What does it mean?

1.

2.

3.

13. This does not mean we are to go to the top of a mountain, isolate ourselves and commune with God for the rest of our lives. What is the overall impact of what is meant? Or how do you do it?

14. Verses 19-21 are again a unit. Remember that the gifts of tongues, prophecies, miracles, etc. were miraculous in character, open to *misuse* and needed definite guidelines. What might have been the tendency on the part of the churches?

15. What were the Thessalonians here told to do about all this?

16. How can these principles of verses 19-21 be helpful to you today? Keep your answer relevant to the context, please.
  
17. Verse 22 is strong. It DOES NOT mean don't do anything someone may think is a no-no. What does it mean? List at least two things you can do to help you carry it out. Think about how we know what is good and what is evil. Notice Psalm 119:9.

Read I Thessalonians 5:23-28.

18. Now we come to the best part of all - Paul's prayer. From this prayer, what is God's part in your sanctification (being made like Him)?
  
19. How does verse 24 relate to everything that has gone before in verses 12-22? How do you feel about that?
  
20. Comment on what one verse from 5:25-28 means to you.
  
21. Write out the most important principles for you in this section (I Thessalonians 5:12-28).

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