

FIRST THESSALONIANS

God's Message to a Church and culture like Ours Today

CHAPTER FIVE NOTES:

WE SHOULD LIVE TO PLEASE GOD! (Ch. 4 Verses 1 –12; see also II Cor 5:9-10)

Live = “Walk”. Walk pictures steady progress, not a sprint or run (“The Christian life is a m_____, not a s_____”).

I. We should live (walk) in LIGHT (verses 1-11)

- 1) The Day if the Lord will come as a thief in the night (most people will be caught in surprise – but we shouldn't!). We should live each day with a sense of purpose and urgency (v. 1-4)

[See Mathew 24:36-51]

- 2) We live in the light and not darkness; we should be watchful and alert, not asleep and drunk; we should be self-controlled and protected by faith and love and the hope of salvation (v. 5-8)
- 3) God appointed us for salvation, not wrath. Jesus died for us so that we can be with Him whether here on earth or in heaven. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we should be encouraging and building each other up (v.9-11)

II. We should live in OBEDIENCE (verses 12-22)

- 4) We should respect those who work among us and provide spiritual leadership and guidance; we should live at peace with each other (v. 12-13)
- 5) We should have concern for each other; including warning the lazy, comforting the timid, upholding the weak, and be patient with all. Should not do evil for evil, but always pursue kindness towards all people (v. 14-15)
- 6) We should follow God's will to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances (v. 16-18)
- 7) We should not quench the Spirit or despise biblical truth; we should test all things, hold onto what is good and avoid all forms of evil (v. 19-22)

III. We should live with PRAYER and GRACE (verses 23-28)

- 8) We should pray for each other (e.g. that God sanctifies; they people would be blameless before God) (v. 23-24)
- 9) We should pray for our leaders (v. 25)
- 10) We should warmly greet each other; share God's word with others (v. 26-27)
- 11) We all need God's grace! (v. 28)