

Labor of Love

1 Thessalonians 5:12-15

November 13, 2022 | Jeremy Chasteen, Lead Pastor for Strategy

BIG IDEA: Labor to love your leaders, one another, and your enemies.

I. Love your leaders (vv. 12-13)

1. How do we love our leaders?

- **Respect your leaders**

Hebrews 13:7 (ESV) | Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

- **Honor your leaders**

1 Timothy 5:17 | Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.

- **Submit to your leaders**

Hebrews 13:17 | Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

2. What are the responsibilities of leaders?

- **Labor among you**

- **Lead you in the Lord**

1 Peter 5:2-3 | 2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

- **Admonish you with truth**

II. Love one another (v. 14)

1. Admonish the idle
2. Encourage the fainthearted
3. Help the weak
4. Be patient with all

II. Love your enemies (v. 15)

Matthew 5:43-45a | 43 You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

1 Peter 2:23 | When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Romans 12:19 | Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

Benediction

1 Peter 3:8-9 | 8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.