

Ordinary Faithfulness

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

October 23, 2022 | Jason Finley, Lead Pastor for Equipping

BIG IDEA: Ordinary faithfulness is a compelling witness.

I. Love your church family (vv. 9-10)

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 (ESV) | 9 Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, 10 for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more,

1 Thessalonians 3:12 | and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,

II. Aspire to live quietly (v. 11a)

1 Thessalonians 4:11a | But we urge you, brothers... 11 to aspire to live quietly,

III. Aspire to mind your own affairs (v. 11b)

1 Thessalonians 4:11b | But we urge you, brothers... 11 to aspire...to mind your own affairs

1 Thessalonians 5:14 | And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

“It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the [benefit] of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the

fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to roll. What weather they may have is not ours to rule.” –J. R. R. Tolkien

IV. Aspire to work (vv. 11c-12)

1 Thessalonians 4:11c-12 | But we urge you, brothers... 11 to aspire...to work with your hands, as we instructed you...and be dependent on no one

1 Thessalonians 5:14 | And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-12 | 6 Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. 9 It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. 10 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. 11 For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. 12 Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Ephesians 4:28 | Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Benediction

Psalm 67:1-2 | 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
2 that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.