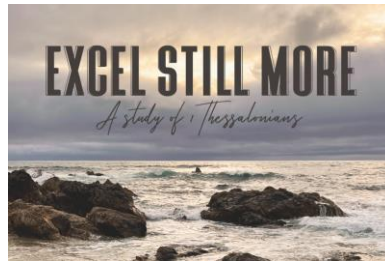


DISCIPLE'S QUEST

If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

John 8:31



February 11, 2024

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

**The Believer's Guide for Living and Striving After Holiness in the Lord's Church,
Part 1: Appreciate Faithful Leaders**

Main Idea:

Paul closes his first letter to the Thessalonians with a series of intensely practical instructions and exhortations for living the Christian life out faithfully as a church family. He begins (5:12-13) with an overview of the responsibilities of leaders to the church family and of the church family to its leaders.

Outline:

- 1) Responsibilities of the local church's leaders to the church family:
 - labor
 - lead
 - instruct

- 2) Responsibilities of the church family to its leaders
 - appreciate
 - esteem
 - live in peace

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 Review the qualifications for elders and deacons in 1 Timothy 3:1-13. What qualifications stand out to you?

Why is the standard for leadership in the local church so high?

#2 What are some of the benefits of the local church being led by a plurality of elders?

#3 Why is accurate Bible teaching so important for the local church?

#4 Explain the importance of Paul's charge in 5:13b to "live in peace with one another." What obstacles can this responsibility present, and how can they be overcome?

Select helpful resources:

Benware, Paul N. *Understanding End Times*. Moody: Chicago, 1995, 2006.

Hiebert, D. Edmund. *1st & 2nd Thessalonians*. BMH Books: Winona Lake, IN, 1996.

MacArthur, John F. *1st & 2nd Thessalonians The MacArthur New Testament Commentary*. Chicago: Moody Bible Institute, 2002.

Thomas, Robert L., Ralph Earle, and D. Edmund Hiebert. *The Expositor's Bible Commentary. 1st & 2nd Thessalonians, 1st & 2nd Timothy, Titus*. Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 1996.