

Evidence of a Healthy Church: Excel in a Living Faith (5:12-28)

1. Church Relationships (vs.12-15)

A. Responsibility of the _____ (pastors, elders)

1. diligently labor; Gk. to exhibit great effort, exertion to point of exhaustion; **2Tim2:6**
2. have charge over; Gk. lit means to stand before, to preside, lead, direct – steers the ship
3. give you instruction; Gk. admonish, warn by correcting to live holy lives; **2Tim3:16-17; 4:1-3**
 - *True spiritual Shepherds lead by God's Word; **2Tim2:15**
 - *God's leaders must be able to teach God's Word, to feed and protect the sheep
 - *Jesus to Peter, feed My sheep; also **Eph4:11-15**

B. Responsibility of the _____

1. appreciate them; Gk. to know closely by experience, entails heartfelt gratitude and respect
 - *this is showing respect and high regard – **1Tim5:17**
2. esteem them very highly in love; Gk. to regard, think about beyond all measure; lit. limitless respect; **WHY?** “because of their work” watching over your souls! **Heb13:17; 1Tim4:6,13,15-16**
3. follow their leadership and instruction – live at peace w/ your pastors and elders

C. Spiritual _____

1. admonish the unruly/wayward – come alongside and warn the insubordinate soldier
2. encourage the fainthearted – lit. small-souled; fearful, worried, only want things safe
3. help the weak – morally and spiritually weak/frail; support, hold these up
 - *be patient, don't repay evil for evil (is conflict); desire their good, their growth and maturity

2. Practical Christian Living – worship and serve the Lord (vs.16-22) *Rom12:1-2

A. In everything give thanks (vs.16-18) *worship God demands involves **constant** joy, prayer, thanks

1. rejoice _____ – lit. “at all times be rejoicing” joy in all circumstances is key in true worship
 - ***Ja1:2-4; 2Cor12:9-10; Rm8:28,31-32**; this comes from deep grounded confidence in God
2. pray without _____ – prayer as a way of life; pray at all times on all things **UNTIL** God answers! Watch and pray, be alert because of the devil; **1Jn5:14-15; Phil4:4-7**
3. in everything give _____ – everything means **ALL** things, don't be ungrateful; because we trust God, have His joy and are going to Him with everything, **THANKING** Him as we pray!
 - ***Col2:6-7; Ps136:1-3** – **Notice:** is the focus the circumstance or God Himself?!

B. Do not quench the Spirit (vs.19-22)

1. Do not _____ the Spirit – Gk. to extinguish, stifle, the power of something; **ex.** smother fire
 - ***Eph5:18** – be filled or controlled by the Spirit; disobedience, rebellion, sin breaks the Holy Spirit's control on our life, thus His power thru us for God's work
2. Do not _____ prophetic utterances; Gk. publicly proclaim, preaching – don't despise preaching of God's Word – **2Tim4:3**; but be good Bereans and go to God's Word
3. abstain from _____ form of evil – hold fast, embrace wholeheartedly what is good; avoid wholeheartedly all that is evil – measure it by God's Word