

**1 Thessalonians 5:12-22**  
Leaders, Each Other, Witness

**FOR THOSE OVER US**

- For all that the church was doing well, it still had some blind spots
- Some were not taking seriously their faith, call nor attention to leaders
- Paul 'urges' not 'ask' them to appreciate/to grow weary/work with effort
- A proper attitude toward leaders is to be held in high regard - body & mind
- Leaders are those who preside, direct, protect and care for the congregation
- They give instruction, admonish, advise, warn, correction in course 2 Thess. 3:15
- The congregation is to know their value, consider, esteem them highly
- Exercise peace with care for sincere interest in our welfare

**FOR THOSE AMONG US**

- Live in peace also with one another, this does mean pursue what is right & good
- Peace can't mean silence, disruption or go along with the flow or worse sin
- Again Paul 'urges' them to admonish the unruly, out of step, rank, military correction
- It means to speak up and bring back into step and rank with the group
- The church is to monitor the church, responsible for each other
- Encourage the fainthearted/discouraged comfort and lift them up in difficult moments
- Then, help the weak from shrinking back, yielding to temptation, other oppressions
- Be patient with everyone, long suffering - even tempered, slow to anger
- Even those who fail need this practice and consideration
- Verse 15 points to the whole group is held responsible for the conduct of each person
- They were to abstain from every form of evil - retaliation especially among each other
- Instead, seek - hunt, pursue, seek eagerly for the good of each other
- These aren't just for those inside the church but among all people

**FOR US**

- Rejoice always; calls for continual attitude (Phi. 2:18; Gal. 5:22)
- Pray without ceasing; constantly
- Give thanks in all things; in every trial, obstacle, conflict continually
- For this is the will of God; Goes along with ch. 4:3-6
- Don't put out the fire of the Spirit, the fuel for all to accomplish instruction
- The Spirit is to be a burning presence among the church
- Don't despise prophetic utterance, but examine carefully, not putting out the fire
- Hold fast to good, retain/keep at all cost, don't let the bad overcast the good
- Abstain from every, kind or species of evil, indulgences or vices