



1 THESSALONIANS SERIES – 28
Living Blameless Within The Church - Part 1
Relationships Require Responsibility - 1 Thess 5:12-15

INTRODUCTION

Responsibilities Within The Church

- The church's responsibility toward its leaders. v. 12-13
- The church's responsibility toward one another. v.14-15

4 New Testament Terms Describe Church Leaders

- ***elder*** (*presbuteros*) characterizes leaders as spiritually mature and wise. (Acts 15:2ff.; 20:17; 1 Tim. 5:17, 19; Titus 1:5; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1, 5; 2 John 1; 3 John 1).
- ***overseer*** (*episkopos*) describes the leader's spiritual oversight and authority. (Acts 20:28; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1–2; Titus 1:7)
- ***pastor*** (*poimēn*) emphasizes the leader's responsibility to feed and protect his flock. (Eph. 4:11; Matt. 9:36; Mark 6:34).
- ***leader*** (*hegemōn*) indicates that the church leader must be able to provide spiritual discernment and guidance for the flock. (Heb. 13:7, 17, 24).

Remember...

Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to constantly apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:7-9; Jam 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:
How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?
How can I accomplish this change?
What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

“brothers” - adelphos - appears 60x in Paul’s writings
27x in the Thessalonian epistles.

The local church and its leaders have mutual responsibilities in the Lord.

1. CHURCH LEADERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO...

- **To Work Diligently In The Church**

“labor” - kopiaō - means to exhibit great effort and exertion, to the point of sweat and exhaustion.

- **To Have Charge Over The Church In The Lord**

“are over” - proistēmi - means “to stand before” and conveys the notion of authoritatively presiding, leading, or directing.

- **To Admonish The Church**

“admonish” – noutheteō - refers not merely to academic data imparted impersonally but to instruction for the purpose of correcting and changing people.

2. THE CHURCH IS RESPONSIBLE TO...

- **To Know Its Leaders**

“respect” - oida - means to know by experience

- **To Esteem Its Leaders Very Highly In Love**

“esteem” – hēgeomai - means to think or consider.

- **To Live In Peace With One Another**