

Growing in Faith Under God's Authority

1st Thessalonians 4:1-2 – Discussion Group Leader Handout

Bible Passage

1 Thessalonians 4:1–12 (NASB95) — **1** Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more. **2** For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Discussion Questions - **Suggested scripture lookups in red, include others that you can think of.**

- I. Know that you can do better
 - a. Why is it important that we keep growing in our faith?
 - i. To fight temptation better
 - ii. To learn more about our savior
 - iii. To increase in giving God glory
 - iv. What else?
 - b. How do we continue to grow in our faith?
 - i. Through Reading his word
 1. Rom 12:2
 2. Eph 4:23
 - ii. Through fellowshiping with the saints
 1. The “one anothers”,
 - a. Rom 12:10,16
 - b. Rom 13:8,
 - c. Rom 14:13,19
 - d. Rom 15:5, 7,14
 - e. Heb 3:13
 - f. Heb 10:24-25
 - iii. Quality sermons and teaching
 - iv. How else?
 - c. Who is the power behind our growth?
 - i. Phil 1:6
 - ii. Gal 2:20
 - d. How do we participate in our growth?
 - i. Phil 2:12
 - ii. 1 Pet 1:1-2
 - II. Know that the words of scripture carry the authority of the Lord Jesus
 - a. Why is the Bible authoritative over our lives?
 - b. Do other entities such as elder or deacon boards or clergy have as much authority over the church as scripture? Why or why not?

- c. Who is the head of the church?
 - i. Eph 5:23-24
- d. What authority does the pastor have over the church
 - i. Eph 4:11-12
 - ii. Heb 13:17

Prayer Requests

- That Anchor Bible Church would diligently seek for God to empower our growth in the Lord.
- That God would unite Anchor Bible Church in spiritual growth as a body.
- That God would help us to obey His word because of its authority over our lives.
- That our church leadership continues to recognize the authority of scripture over themselves and Anchor Bible Church.
- That Anchor Bible Church leadership continues to rightly divide the Word of truth, excel even more in that responsibility.