

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

GETTING ALONG IN THE FAMILY OF GOD

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Main Thought: In 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18, we learn some important lessons about getting along in the family of God.

1. LEARN TO RELATE PROPERLY TO YOUR _____ LEADERS. (vv 12-13)

- 1) The role of church _____.
 - (1) _____ hard.
 - (2) _____ for the congregation.
 - (3) _____ when necessary.

- 2) The role of the _____.
 - (1) _____ and honor your leaders.
 - (2) Live in _____ with each other.
 - (3) _____ for them. (v 25)

2. LEARN TO _____ PROPERLY TO ONE ANOTHER. (vv 14-15)

- 1) _____ the idle.
- 2) _____ the discouraged.
- 3) _____ the weak.
- 4) Be _____.
- 5) Don't _____.
- 6) Be _____.

3. LEARN TO RELATE PROPERLY TO THE _____. (vv 16-18)

- 1) _____ always.
- 2) _____ continually.
- 3) Give _____ in everything.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. What instructions does Paul give the church regarding its spiritual leaders? How can a church apply those instructions?

8. What is required for church members to "live in peace with each other"? What should we do if we find ourselves at odds with a brother or sister in Christ?

9. What are we to do with those who are idle and disruptive? How?

10. What are we to do with those who are discouraged? How?

11. How do we help the weak?

12. What's involved in being patient with someone?

13. Why shouldn't we retaliate against those who wrong us? What are we to do instead?

14. Paul gives three seemingly impossible commands in verse 16-18. What are they? What do you think he means? How do you practice them in your life?