



# I THESSALONIANS

## “STAND FIRM IN THE LORD”

### LESSON #7 - I THESSALONIANS 5:11-28

#### INTRODUCTION

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to encourage and strengthen the Thessalonian Christians. As today's dependence on distance learning has taught us, teaching takes place in a variety of ways. Relate the ways Paul has used the following approaches:

Told

Modeled

Reinforced

#### I THESSALONIANS 5:11-22

Paul teaches us to “respect” church leaders. What three expressions does he use to describe those church leaders?

a)

b)

c)

It's always a good idea to live in peace with each others. Summarize some benefits of living at peace even when you easily clash with fellow Christians.

Uncover the rationale behind each of the 6 commands in I Thessalonians 5:14-15.

Warn those who are idle: (I Thess 4:11,12)

Encourage the timid:

Help the weak: (Matt 25:40)

Be patient with everyone:

Don't pay back wrong: (Eph 4:32)

Be kind to each other: (Gal 6:10)

Paul reinforces ways you can pattern your whole life after God's will in the following verses. Explain each of the following:

Joy is better than happiness.

(*1 Thessalonians 1:6; Romans 5:3-5; 1 Peter 1:7; 1 Peter 3:13-15; Romans 8:39; James 1:2*)

Giving thanks is the Christian's calling

The Spirit's fire is fueled by the Means of Grace

(*2 Timothy 4:7; Philippians 2:12; Galatians 5:25*)

Emptying God's Word of authority or treating God's Word like it is full of errors is contemptible

Testing reveals impurities

Once information has been tested, you can act on it

Keep dangerous things far away from yourself

## 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-28

Replace "sanctify" with "set apart for God's use." Express your reason confidence this will happen.

(*Ephesians 4:13; 2 Corinthians 5:14*)

Paul wants his letter to be read and taught outside the church in Thessalonica. Give reasons why this isn't arrogance from Paul. (cf 2 Peter 3:15,16)

Review the specific "calls to action" given by the Apostle Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:11-21. Choose at least 5 of the following action calls and jot down one practical thing you could do to carry it out.

v. 11 - Build one another up

v. 12 - Respect your leaders

v. 13 - Live in peace with one another

v. 14 - Help the weak

v. 15 - Don't pay back wrong for wrong

v. 18 - Give thanks in all circumstances

v. 21 - Hold on to the good

## CONCLUSION

The Apostle Paul had a personal relationship with the Christians in Thessalonica. But their more important relationship was with their Savior. Summarize some of the ways Paul worked to maintain and strengthen their relationship with Jesus.

Once strengthened and encouraged, those Thessalonians would have been equipped to encourage and strengthen others. Explain how you can do that today.