

# *I Thessalonians*

## (9) Church Leadership and Discipling

1 Thess 5:12-28

12 Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. 13 Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 14 And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

NIV

### **Spiritual leadership in the Church...5:12-13**

What does Paul now *request* of these brothers? 5:12a

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Who are they? 5:12b; Acts 14:23, 20:28; ITim.3:1-13, 5:17; Titus 1:5; IPet.5:2; Eph.4:11

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Where/how do they get their authority? 5:12b; IICor.3:4-6; Eph.4:11-12

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How are these specific men identified? 1) ITim.5:17 2) Acts 20:28 3) Eph.4:11 4) Heb.13:17

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What does *admonish* mean? 5:14a; Acts 20:31; Rom.15:14; Col.1:28

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What is Paul's next request? 5:13a; Heb.13:17

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Does all this mean these men are superior, sinless and always right? 5:13b; ITim.5:17-22

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What fundamental truth should all church leaders remember? James 3:1

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So in this church leadership, who is submissive to who? Heb.13:17; James 4:7; Rom.12:9-13

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### **Discipling applications...5:14-15**

What are Paul's instructions on ministry to the *idle* and the *timid*? 5:14a

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What is his instruction on ministry to the *weak*? 5:14b; ICor.11:30; Mark 14:38

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What is *absolutely* needed for anyone trying to disciple the idle, timid, or weak? 5:14d

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And the capstone instruction for discipling everyone? 5:15 Mt.18:21-22

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## (9) Church Leadership and Discipling

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12 Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. 13 Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 14 And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

NIV

### Spiritual leadership in the Church...5:12-13

What does Paul now *request* of these brothers? 5:12a

**He wants them to respect (appreciate) those who work hard (to exhaustion) among them.**

Who are they? 5:12b; Acts 14:23, 20:28; ITim.3:1-13, 5:17; Titus 1:5; IPet.5:2; Eph.4:11

**Those who are over you in the Lord. That is, elders, deacons, deaconesses, pastors, teachers.**

Where/how do they get their authority? 5:12b; IICor.3:4-6; Eph.4:11-12

**Authority is 'in the Lord'. Gifted, called, appointed (recognized), in/by the Lord.**

How are these specific men identified? 1) ITim.5:17 2) Acts 20:28 3) Eph.4:11 4) Heb.13:17

**1)elder (presbuteros) 2)overseer (episkopos) 3)pastor/teacher (poimen) 4)leader (hegemon)**

What does *admonish* mean? 5:14a; Acts 20:31; Rom.15:14; Col.1:28

**It means to put in mind, warn. Focuses on things that are wrong. (Teaching imparts truth).**

What is Paul's next request? 5:13a; Heb.13:17

**Hold them in highest regard, in love, because of their work. That is, obey and submit...**

Does all this mean these men are superior, sinless and always right? 5:13b; ITim.5:17-22

**No but live in peace! Submit, honor, no gossip but if there's continued sin, rebuke publicly.**

What fundamental truth should all church leaders remember? James 3:1

**Be cautious about teaching (in the church). Such leadership incurs a stricter judgment!**

So in this church leadership, who is submissive to who? Heb.13:17; James 4:7; Rom.12:9-13

**Leaders to the Lord, congregation to the Lord and to the Leaders, and to each other!**

### Discipling applications...5:14-15

What are Paul's instructions on ministry to the *idle* and the *timid*? 5:14a

**Warn the idle (unruly, not keeping rank, insubordinate). Comfort/console the despondent.**

What is his instruction on ministry to the *weak*? 5:14b; ICor.11:30; Mark 14:38

**Encourage (cling to, hold up) the weak (physical or spiritual). One may feed the other.**

What is *absolutely* needed for anyone trying to disciple the idle, timid, or weak? 5:14d

**Be patient (long-tempered) with everyone! Even the porcupines! 70x7x70x... Mt.18:21-22.**

And the capstone instruction for discipling everyone? 5:15 Mt.18:21-22

**Forgive everyone, completely. No pay back, no vengeance. Be kind to believers and ...**