

1 Thessalonians

Chapter 5

Verse 11

1. In this verse, Paul gives two commandments that concern our relationship with others.
2. “Comfort” simply means “to _____, to console.”
 - There are so many people who are desperately looking for someone to comfort them, but there is nobody.
 - *“Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.”*

Psalm 69:20

3. The word “edify” simply means to “_____ up.”
4. Notice, he didn’t say to comfort and edify **yourself**, but one another. This is a call against the trap of _____-centeredness.
 - *“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.”* **Romans 15:1-2**

Verse 12-13

1. These verses are dealing with leadership in the local assembly.
 - *“And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.”*
Acts 14:23
 - *“For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee.”*
Titus 1:5
2. What were the responsibilities of these leaders? Paul mentions three key principles:
 - They were to _____ spiritually among the flock.

– *“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.” 1 Timothy 5:17*

- They were to _____ the local assembly of believers. cf. Acts 20:28;
 - *“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.”*

1 Peter 5:2

- They were to admonish those in the church. cf. 2 Timothy 2:24-26, 4:2
 - “Admonish” means “to put in mind, to caution, to _____ gently.”

3. What is to be the response of the church towards their spiritual leaders?

- First, _____ them. vs. 12
 - This simply means that the people in the church are to recognize their position of spiritual authority. cf. Hebrews 13:7
- Second, esteem them very _____. vs. 13; cf. Hebrews 13:17
- Third, _____ them. vs. 13; cf. Galatians 4:14-15

4. What is the result when the leaders and the people understand and fulfill their responsibilities? Look at the end of verse 13 - _____!