

1 Thessalonians

Chapter 5

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 - _____!

Verse 14

1. Any time you have people, you have _____ that must be addressed and worked through. The local church is no different.
2. In this verse, Paul is giving various commands concerning people problems.

First, _____ them that are unruly.

- The “unruly” are those who refuse to _____ to spiritual authority. They have a contentious spirit.
- The other brethren are to encourage peace in the situation.

Second, _____ the feebleminded.

- This is referring to people who are weary and about to _____.

Third, support the _____.

- This carries the idea of caring for a person who is simply _____ to care for himself.

Fourth, be _____ toward all men.

- Patience is something that doesn't come naturally. It is a _____ that comes from the Holy Spirit within.
- Many times we are like the man in Matthew 18:23-30. We want the Lord to be patient with us, but we show _____ patience with others.
- *“But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.” Psalm 86:15*