

REJOICE, PRAY AND GIVE THANKS

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Key Verse: 5:16-18

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1. How should the Thessalonians regard their leaders (12-13)? What do the words “acknowledge” and “in love” imply? Why should they do this?
2. What specific instructions did Paul give to all of the Thessalonian believers (14-15)? How would practicing these help them to build up each other? What can we learn here about the responsibility of each member to a healthy Christian community?
3. Read verses 16-18. What positive commands are given to each believer? How do the words “always,” “continually,” and “in all circumstances” encourage and challenge us to practice these commands? What do the words “God’s will for us in Christ Jesus” imply?
4. What specifically did Paul instruct them not to do (19-22)? How are these instructions related to each other? Why is respecting the Holy Spirit’s work so important?
5. What did Paul pray for (23)? When is sanctification completed? What confidence can we have (24)? What were Paul’s final greetings, instructions and blessing (25-28)?