

# 1 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 5

## Lesson 14: The Model Church

### 1Thessalonians 5:12-15

11 March 2024

In chapter five verses twelve through fifteen we have the setting forth of a model assembly. When model Christians meet under model ministers there are certain attitudes and responsibilities which, if practiced, will ensure that their gathering is also exemplary of the purposes of God.

#### I. HIGH ESTEEM FOR AUTHORITY (vv. 12-13).

Those whom God has made to be pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints are to be respected and submitted to by those within the assembly (Ephesians 4:7-12; Hebrews 13:7, 17).

#### II. PEACE AMONG BRETHREN (v. 13).

This goes hand in hand with point 1, for in most cases an assembly is in conflict when the authority structure is faulty.

Peace in a local church can be maintained only by the practice of humility (Philippians 2:3-4).

If you don't love the brethren, you don't love God (1 Jn 4:20).

#### III. WARNING UNRULY (v. 14).

A. By preaching against sin (1 Timothy 5:20).

B. Through personal counsel (Galatians 6:1).

C. By swift, properly executed discipline (Titus 3:10).

- Because a little leaven leavens the whole lump (1 Cor. 5:6).
- Because evil communications corrupt good manners (1 Cor. 15:33).

#### IV. COMFORT THE FEEBLE MINDED (v. 14).

The church, by its nature, will attract the emotionally disturbed or mentally challenged. God's church has the only real help for such individuals.

#### V. SUPPORT THE WEAK (v. 14).

A. By bearing another's burdens (Galatians 6:2).

B. By assisting those weak in the faith (Romans 14:1).

C. By unfailing love toward those in spiritual difficulty or decline (Job 12:5).

#### VI. PATIENT TOWARD ALL MEN (v. 14).

In considering the points above we could think of numerous occasions in which such persons would try our patience. A local church of Spirit controlled believers will maintain right relations one with another through all the trials of personal interaction.

#### VII. NO EVIL FOR EVIL

A. There can be no place for vengeance (Romans 12:21).

In a close-knit group of vastly different individuals, there will be hurt feelings, misunderstandings and the like.

Forgive and forget!

B. Take the wrong and let it pass (1 Corinthians 6:7)

#### VIII. FOLLOW GOOD AMONG YOURSELVES (v. 15).

A. God is good (Matthew 19:17).

B. We are called to follow Him (1 Peter 1:21).

C. This is a call to treat our brethren as they are treated by the Father.