

## I Thessalonians

Class #117 – SUN AM (1) 12/18/2005

### 1 Thess 4:9-12 Interpretive Translation

Now **concerning the benevolent regard for fellow members of God's Royal Family**, you have no need for *anyone* to write to you, because you yourselves are **being** taught by God to love one another; for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, **to continue excelling to a greater degree**, and to consider it an honor (**to have as your goal**) to lead a restful life and to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we commanded you, in order that you will conduct yourselves with propriety toward unbelievers and not to be in need.

1. To lead a quiet life.
2. Attend to your own business.
  - a. Mind your own business
  - b. Don't be a "busy-body".
3. Work with your hands
  - a. Cultural note: The Greeks looked down on those doing manual labor.
  - b. Don't be a sucker fish – someone along for a free ride.

2 Thess 3:14-15 thought – Avoid association with those members of a local church that are not moving with the same momentum. Don't treat them as enemy but do "admonish them".

- Application – By associating with an individual having no momentum or those "out there flapping", you tacitly give approval of their behavior. Accepting or facilitating a wrong.

Note also 2 Thess 3:10-11 and Prov 25:26 on work ethic.

### 1 Thess 4:12 Christian behavior

- Conduct becoming of a Christian
- A life conducted with propriety
- The Christian has a witness to unbelievers in his conduct (*responsibilities outside the body of Christ*)
- "Not being in need" - not being a burden to the local church (*responsibilities inside the body of Christ*)

Other passages to note:

Acts 2: 41-47

Acts 5:32

1 Tim 5:3-16

In doing these things: living that quiet - tranquil life, minding your own business, being attentive to your work ethic and conduct, you show benevolent regard to fellow believers and you fulfill your responsibilities of ambassadors of Christ.

**Class Slides**

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*