

I Thessalonians

Class #132 – Thu PM - 1/26/2006

1 Thess 5:12

(12) But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

1 Thess 5:12 – Interpretive translation

(12) But ***we are requesting / beseeching y'all***, brethren, that you appreciate (respect – honor - recognize) ***the ones who are working hard*** among ***y'all*** (The local church in Thessalonica), and ***the ones having charge*** over ***y'all*** in the Lord (spiritual authority) and ***the ones who are instructing*** (admonishing, warning) ***y'all***.

POD (*review*) – Unconditional love and authority orientation are required to maintain ranks in the spiritual advance.

POD (*revised*) – Those gifted to serve in a leadership capacity must be led by the Spirit to accept a position of leadership.

How God Leads the Gifted Believer into his Field of Service–

- 1) **Providential hands of God** (directing events and circumstances in your life to provide opportunities to Carpe Occasio).
 - a. *Self-motivation*
 - The believer must be motivated as a result of his spiritual autonomy through what he has learned about his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and the Spirit's unhindered work in him.
 - The motivation must come from within as the Holy Spirit is working in you **"to will and to work for His good pleasure"** (**Phil 2:13**).
 - b. *Consistency* in Bible class (provides opportunities).
 - c. Men's *Payer Meeting & Weekly Prayer Meetings*
 - Consistency provides opportunity.
 - d. *Service* on the Usher Committee.
 - e. *Recognition of Spiritual Giftedness*.
 - Intrinsic Recognition: Through ministry consistency the believer often recognizes his spiritual gift and niche in the local church.
 - Extrinsic Recognition: As the believer is consistent, his spiritual gift(s) is often recognized by others.
 - f. *Genuine humility* - A willing soul is a prerequisite to function as a servant of the Lord.
 - Issues for the Privacy of the Priesthood
 - Are you that willing servant?
 - Or does your *flesh* repulse at the concept . . . ?
 - g. *Opportunity Presents Itself*
 - The willing soul fulfills the principle of Carpe Occasio
 - Will you seize the opportunity?
- 2) **Prayer** (must accompany the believer throughout the leading process)
- 3) **The Holy Spirit's Bearing Witness Ministry** – a conviction of the will.

Note – *If the willingness is not present there is no conviction!*

- *Always remember, God leading the believer into the field where God would have him work is a process - be patient for His timing.*

POD (*review*) – Men who occupy leadership positions in a local church have spiritual authority to maintain rank and order required for the congregation's spiritual advance.

POD (review) – It is critical to respect those in leadership positions within the local church because their responsibilities insure the order required to maintain the spiritual advance.

- The fulfillment of the three participles mentioned in **1 Thess 5:12** facilitate the spiritual advance of a congregation.

POD (review) – Spiritual advance of the local church requires gifted men in leadership positions to do their job as unto the Lord with fervency of spirit.

Rom 12:6-11

(6) Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if **prophecy**, according to the proportion of his faith; (prophecy ceased to function as a spiritual gift once the canon was completed)

(7) if **service**, in his serving; or he who **teaches**, in his teaching;

(8) or he who **exhorts**, in his exhortation; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.

Note – your spiritual gift warrants what you do for the benefit of the body. If you are doing something for the local church and it is irksome or troublesome or does not flow freely; if it is something that is not intrinsically rewarding, chances are that is NOT where God designed you to function.

(9) Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

(10) Be devoted to one another in brotherly love (having a benevolent regard for your fellow believers in the Lord); give preference to one another in honor (consider others more important than yourself – look after their interests);

(11) not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit (to seethe; to boil; to be passionate; to have an intrinsic eagerness), serving the Lord (to fulfill the responsibilities of a servant; this requires a servant's heart);

POD – The spiritual advance also requires those within the flock – everybody – to serve the Lord with a fervency of spirit (with passion and eagerness) in genuine humility accompanied with authority orientation.

1 Thess 5:13

(13) and that you esteem them (*plural* – it takes more than just a pastor to run a local church – it takes gifted men in church leadership positions) **very highly** (highest form of comparison imaginable; quite beyond all measure) in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

1 Thess 5:13 - Interpretive translation

(13) **and that you highly regard them beyond measure** in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

For the sake of glorifying God collectively, as a local church, we should regard the spiritual leadership beyond measure because their jobs maintain rank and order required to advance together as a congregation.

POD – It is critical to the spiritual advance for the Christian to highly regard those in positions of authority within a local church.

Class slides



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