

I Thessalonians

Class #133 – Sun AM - 1/29/2006

1 Thess 5:12-13 – 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 and ***the ones who are admonishing y'all***,

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

Review – Threefold responsibility for leadership in a local church.

- KOPIAO – To work hard in the physical, mental & spiritual domains.
- PROHISTEMI – To rule, to direct, to manage. To exercise authority in the local church.
- NOUTHETEO – To warn, to admonish or instruct.

Factors critical in the spiritual advance of a local church.

- 1) Respect for spiritual leadership - pastor-teacher and the board of deacons (1 Thess 5:12).
- 2) Highly regard them **in love** - *by means of benevolent regard* (1 Thess 5:13).

Points of Doctrine in Review -

POD – The 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).

POD – The spiritual advance also requires those within the flock – everybody – to serve the Lord with a fervency of spirit (with eagerness) in genuine humility accompanied with authority orientation (**Rom 12:10, 11**).

(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 responsibility of a servant);

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

POD (New) – Respecting and regarding, beyond measure, facilitates the leadership in fulfilling responsibilities critical to the spiritual advance.

Leadership in a local church is often bi-vocational. Not only do they have responsibilities to fulfill in the local church but they also have their normal job to fulfill (in the work place) This is why they are putting forth strenuous effort/working hard in the mental, spiritual, and physical domains (KOPIAO).

1 Timothy 3:13

(13) For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Examples of high regard for leadership –

- Praying for them in an intercessory capacity.
- Encouraging them.
- Building them up under the principle of HEIS-TON-HENA.

POD – The spiritual leadership should not esteem themselves as more important than the team (the flock) or those that comprise the team as they are servants of the Lord.

Qualifications for leadership

- Self-motivated.
- Genuine humility.
- Authority orientation.
- Loyalty to God and to His Word.
- Devoid or free of personal agendas.

John 13:1-17

(1) Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

(2) During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him,

(3) Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God,

(4) got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.

(5) Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

(6) So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?"

(7) Jesus answered and said to him, "**What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter.**"

(8) Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "**If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.**"

Symbolic teaching of the Lord

- Washing is required due to being dirty.
- Dirt symbolizes the defilement of sin.
- Sin requires cleansing.

(9) Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head."

(10) Jesus said to him, "He who has **bathed** needs only to **wash** his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."

"Bathing" represents the washing from sin the believer receives at salvation.

"Washing" represents partial cleansings from sin required after one has been saved.

(11) For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "**Not all of you are clean.**"

(12) So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "**Do you know what I have done to you?**"

(13) "**You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am.**"

(14) "**If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.**"

POD – Christian must be willing to serve and to serve in time to have **a place** in reigning with Christ in eternity.

- He must also be willing to be served.

(15) "**For I gave you an example** (a model, a pattern to be emulated) **that you also should do as I did to you** (to server one another as God sent you to do).

Rom 12:6

(6) Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly...

(16) "Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.

(17) "If you **know** these things, you are blessed if you **do** them (there is a difference between knowing and doing).

POD – Christian will experience true happiness (+H) when he is doing what God would have him do.

John 12:26

(26) "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

How do you serve the Lord?

- You add spiritual value to the body of Christ with the manifold grace of God given you at salvation.
 - Use your spiritual gift & fulfill the responsibilities of the Believer Priesthood!

John 12:24-25

(24) "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears **much** fruit.

(25) "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.

This life is not designed for you to do what you want to do but to glorify The One who purchased you on the cross.

Class slides



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