

I Thessalonians

Class #135 – Thu PM - 2/2/2006

1 Thess 5:11– 13 Interpretive translation

(11) Therefore keep on encouraging one another and keep on building up one another (HEIS-TON-HENA), just as y'all are doing.

(12) But ***we are requesting / beseeching y'all***, brethren, that you appreciate (respect – honor - recognize) ***the ones*** (spiritual leadership of the local church) ***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. Maintain harmonious rapport with one another (in the spiritual advance).

The believer fulfills the commands of vs. 11 when he begins functioning as an effective member in a body of believers for the benefit of that body in the spiritual advance.

Requirements to do that include:

- Self-motivation (a result of executing the unique spiritual life & God the Holy Spirit functioning in an unhindered capacity).
- Genuine humility.
- Authority orientation.
- Loyalty to the Lord & His Word.
- Malleability (to do what the Lord would have you do for the flock; to function in a manner that is devoid of personal agendas).

Commands of 1 Thess 5: 11-13

- 1) “Keep on encouraging”
- 2) “Keep on building up” – HEIS-TON-HENA
- 3) “Respect the spiritual leadership in the flock”
- 4) “Highly regard beyond measure” – those in leadership of local church
- 5) “Maintain harmony” – with fellow believers in rank moving forward in the spiritual advance (harmonious rapport).
 - a. Note that fellowship with God always precedes fellowship with fellow believers
 - b. Reason being is that God the Holy Spirit is the one who produces the peace between believers who are walking in dependence on Him.
 - c. Prerequisite is that the believer must be occupied with Christ – focused on the Lord with malleability on the FLOTLINE of his soul.

Remember - Spiritual Advance by Columns (1 Thess 1:3)

- 1) ***Metabolized Bible Doctrine*** [PISTIS] producing [ERGON] - ***Work*** (believer comes to a recognition of spiritual gift function and puts that to work). All in the face of opposition from Satan and his task organization! And what is it that keeps you going?
- 2) ***Love*** [AGAPE] producing [KOPOS] – ***Strenuous effort*** to maintain that work in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Church Age Believer Priesthood for the benefit of the team that is advancing forward of the battle area. And that love is for all three members of the Godhead: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Of special importance is the personal love we have for Jesus Christ – a stage in the spiritual advance.
- 3) ***Confident expectation*** in the imminent return of Jesus Christ [ELPIS] producing [HUPOMONE] – ***Steadfast endurance*** to bear up under the greatest pressures in doing what God would have you do.

In order for us to keep on with this advance, in the face of opposition requires: self-motivation; genuine humility; authority orientation; loyalty to the Lord and His Word; malleability.

1 Thess 5:14

(14) We urge you, brethren, **admonish** the unruly, **encourage** the fainthearted, **help** the weak, **be patient** with everyone.

1 Thess 5:14- Interpretive translation

(14) We are encouraging y'all, brothers (fellow members of God's Royal Family), keep on admonishing the unruly, keep on cheering up the discouraged ones, and keep on helping the weak, keep on being patient with everyone.

Commands of 1 Thess 5: 14

- 6) "To **admonish**, to warn or to instruct" [NOUTHETEO] the **unruly** [ATAKTOS] – those in the flock who have fallen down on the job; gotten lazy or neglectful in their responsibilities or the quality of their work has suffered. Their job is not being done as unto the Lord. You have a responsibility to admonish them – to give them a "swift kick in the pants."
- 7) "To **encourage**, or cheer someone up" [PARAMUTHEOMAI] the **fainthearted** [OLIGOPSUCHOS] – someone short of breath in their soul, discouraged in the spiritual advance.

Encouragement-

- Keep on cheering them up.
- You encourage them with Bible Doctrine.
- Always ready to do this when warranted.
- Wait for God to direct the circumstances where the opportunity is presented – then you seize the opportunity.
- Emphasis is placed on your volition to discern how to cheer them up or encourage them.

How did the person become short of breath to begin with?

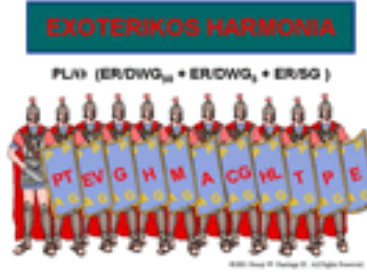
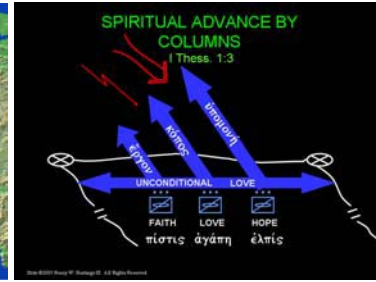
- Lack of application of Bible Doctrine.
- Circumstance or situations cause you to get discouraged.
- Go easy on one another!
- Have some compassion on them – you don't know all that they are up against.
- Encouragement is meant to refocus attention on the solution – Bible Doctrine.
- There is nothing wrong with becoming fainthearted.

POD – Cheering up a discouraged Christian is always done by refocusing their attention on Jesus Christ and the promises in His infallible Word – Bible Doctrine.

- 8) "**Help**, assist or care for someone" [ANTECHOMAI] the **weak** [ASTHENES] – a newer believer who does not have that dependence on the Lord yet.
- 9) "**Be patient**, or patiently endure" [MAKROTHUMEO] with **everyone** [PAS] – all, everyone.

1 Cor 13:4 – love is patient (benevolent regard translated to patience).

Class slides



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