

March 15, 2026
I Thessalonians 5:12-28
In My Father's House

Principles And Practical Application

The church in Thessalonica had some spiritual deficiencies but nothing that threatened the basic spiritual life of it. No scandalous sins or false doctrines mentioned. Sheep need instruction. Sometimes it is delivered in the form of admonishment. This is teaching with an element of warning designed to direct the sheep in the way they should go to accomplish holy living. Consider ways you can pursue holy living daily.

Pray always comes from a settled attitude of dependence on God. To pray without ceasing you don't always have to utter words. Simply lift your heart up to God while occupied with other duties. "The true victories in life are won by Christians who are joyful, prayerful, and thankful." *Robert L. Thomas.*

Don't quench the Spirit. Jesus traveled to Nazareth but didn't stay long due to their unbelief, He just moved on to places more receptive. See **Matthew 13: 53-58**.

Christians, test the things you hear. Do they measure up with the teachings of the Bible? Reject counterfeit teaching. Hold on to your convictions. Think biblically when problems arise and when you know your position is sound and biblically based, become dogmatic about it no matter the pushback of the world. Define/refine your thinking; what is true, what is wrong. Be willing to risk offending others with the truth.

When Paul preached in Berea the believers there searched the Scriptures to see if what he was saying was true. Read **II Peter 1:20-21**. Do likewise.

The church is drifting from sound biblically based discernment these days. The focus is on what makes me feel good about myself. There is a spiritual famine spreading across the landscape for truth, see **Amos 8:11-12**. Spiritual discernment is the ability to distinguish divine truth from error and half-truths. Pray without ceasing for our church.

Application:

Pray for the pastor. Never let him enter into the pulpit without having been and constantly being prayed over. "We need wise leadership today, but still more wise following. An army of captains and colonels never won a battle." *A. T. Robertson* I'm glad we have been faithful to go through this book and reading it multiple times in our corporate worship as instructed see **v 27**. Let's determine to pursue what is good, **v 15**.