

Revival Christian Fellowship

The Church in the Last Days

1 Thessalonians 5:12-22 - Life In the Local Church

March 27, 2022

Main Point: Christians need to be involved in the life of the local church.

Introduction

- Why should Christians be involved in the local church?

Understanding

1. Leadership. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13.

- a. Who is Paul talking about in these two verses?
- b. How does 2 Timothy 4:2 define the tasks of a pastor?
- c. What more can we learn from the following verses?
 - i. Hebrews 13:17
 - ii. 1 Timothy 5:17
- d. Why is it important for us to let the leaders of the church know that we value them? What are specific ways we can affirm and support our leaders?

2. Fellowship. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15.

- a. What different types of people in the church does Paul draw attention to in this verse? What is our responsibility with each group?
- b. What is the goal of correcting those who are out of step? What does it look like? Why is this often so hard for us to do?
- c. How easy or difficult is it to have patience with different types of people in the church?
- d. Instead of taking personal vengeance, how should we treat everyone? How does this differ from most people's natural reaction?
- e. Who benefits when we please God by forgiving others? How are they benefited?
- f. How can Christians demonstrate goodness to one another?

3. Worship. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22.

- a. How can we rejoice always even when things aren't going well or according to plan?
- b. What situations did the Thessalonians find themselves in that would make it difficult to be thankful? How can we give thanks in all circumstances?
- c. What does it mean to pray without ceasing? How can you improve your prayer life in the coming year?
- d. Why are the practices mentioned above "God's will for you in Christ?"

- e. What does it mean to “Quench the Spirit?”
- f. Prophecy can be defined in what two ways? How can prophecy be despised?
- g. Read various translations of 5:21, and explain what it means to “prove all things.”
- h. What things does the Bible define as evil that Christians should avoid? Are there any of these things that you find it difficult to avoid?

Application

- What do you think are the main obstacles to a deeper sense of authentic community at church?