

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians

Feb 2017

### Model for Ministry: *Final Instructions*

#### INTRODUCTION

What part of the United States has the rudest people? Why?

#### EXPLORATION

##### Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

1. How does God want us to treat each other? Vv 13-15
2. How do you respect someone? **Heb 13:17** Why is it important to respect your “elders”?
3. If we try to live in peace with everyone in the church, how do we resolve conflicts?
4. What happens when you pay back “good” to a person who has wronged (done evil to) you?  
**Rom 12:17-21; Luke 6:31-34**
5. How can you remain joyful when things go badly? How does prayer relate to a person’s joy?
6. What three things does Paul say every Christian should do? vv. 16-18
7. What does it mean to pray continually? Vs 17
8. What is the difference between giving thanks for *everything* and giving thanks in *all* circumstances? Vs 18 Why should we give thanks in *all* circumstances? **Rom 8:28**
9. What prevents us from becoming “fatalists” that blindly accept everything that comes our way?
10. What is God’s will for us? vv. 16-18
11. How should we show respect for the Holy Spirit’s presence in us? Vv 19-22
12. How could a person put out the Spirit’s fire? **Heb 12:14, 1 Pet 1:15**
13. What does God want to happen inside us? Vs 23
14. For what reason can we depend on God? Vs 24
15. How can we tell if God is actually at work in us? **Num 23:19; Phil 1:6**

#### APPLICATION

- Which of Paul’s short, direct commands in this passage do you most need to remember?
- With whom do you need to make peace? How can you start?

#### Respect?

*On a cross Country flight a pastor was seated next to an atheist. Every few minutes one of his children or grandchildren would come to his seat to see if he needed anything - food, drink, something to read. They’d just come and check on him. The atheist commented, "The respect your children and grandchildren show you is wonderful. Mine don’t show me that respect. "*

*"As I think about it," the pastor said. "to my children and grandchildren I am one step closer to the God who created the Hebrews, the God who spoke to us at Sinai. To yours, you are merely one step closer to the apes."*

*That story, in a not-so-subtle way, communicates an important message. Being the people of God has a profound impact on how we treat other people, especially the ones closest to us. It stands in stark contrast to the bumper sticker that says, "Be nice to your children; they’ll pick your nursing home." Or the one that reads, "Honor thy father and mother; they haven’t made their will yet."*