

Paul's First Epistle To The

THESSALONIANS

CHAPTER 4:9-12

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TITLE:

**"HOW A CHURCH OUGHT TO LIVE"
AWAITING THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST**

THEME:

1 Thessalonians 1:10

"We are to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come."

**the times that we are living
in have set records**

- in technology, • in environmental recovery with the reintroduction of the wolf to America and Canada,
 - There are more California Condors today than in the last 100 years and the Bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list!!!
- sexual assault • armed robbery, • murder, • thefts, • and global terrorism is at an all-time human high

John 9:4

"I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. :5 "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." - - I DO NOT HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT - - **Matt 5:14** "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

So powerful is the reality of what Jesus had said there that.....

Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

" HOW A CHURCH OUGHT TO LIVE "

1.) Is With a Passion to Love

vv. 9

"Stark Raving" - "Absolutely" - "Fully Abandon"

In Love with Jesus Christ

are appreciating “WHAT” He’s done for you and with you?

Verse 9

But concerning “brotherly love” you have no need that I should write to you

When Paul Here say’s - “But” concerning brotherly love’
it is in **direct opposition** to the lust and the abuse that is mentioned in **verse 3**

The Thought is connected to **verse 6** - *if you have God’s love dwelling in your heart - You will not be defrauding another “or reaching over the fence to take the property of another”*

Verse 9a

a) Love Makes the First Move

vv. 9a

Eros	Physical or erotic Love
Storge	Family Love
Agape	Divine Love toward mankind. To treat others as God would treat them. Yielding the will to the benefit of another regardless of status

God’s Love toward us and
God’s Love in Us toward others....
is an “Initiating” love

1 John 4:19

We love Him because He first loved us.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, - Christ died for us.

* **Brotherly Love** **GRK 5360 philia - delphia (fil-ad-el-fee'-ah)**
a strong and deep friendship - brotherly love (to show godly kindness) to have Love for the brethren. **Philia - Brotherly/Marital**

Verse 9b

b) Love is “Assumed” among Christians

The “Uniqueness” of the Christ of Christmas - Christianity

A Message of Freely Offered Love and Forgiveness

1 John 3:11

For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

1 John 3:23

And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

jack - I'm not loving brother johnny as I ought
(you mean you can't stand to be near him?)

Romans 12:18

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

How many of you have been forgiven of your sins ?

How many of you believe that Jesus Christ is God and Savior ?

Then This church cannot be anything else than a Love Boat

Matthew 24:11

"Then many **false prophets** will rise up and deceive many. :12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the **love** of many will grow cold.

Verse 9c

c) Love is God's Example to Us & For Us

for you yourselves are **taught by God** to love one another;

1 John 3:16

By this we **know love**..... “because” He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Jesus Taught By Doing

John 13:15

"For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

It is impossible for us to love as God
does without His power

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

A Fish Swims Because it is a Fish - But they've never learned how to swim
A Bird flies because it is a Bird - But they've never learned how to fly

it is the nature of a fish to swim and the bird to fly

It is the nature of a Christian

to love because God has placed a new nature in the Christian

John 13:3

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also
love one another. :35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one
another."

John 15:12

"This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. :13 "Greater love has no
one than this, than to **lay down** one's life for his friends.

*

lay down GRK 5087 tithemi (tith'-ay-mee)

to assume a humble posture, to bow, to kneel down, lay (to
yield the right-a-way to another)

" HOW A CHURCH OUGHT TO LIVE "

2.) Is With a Zeal for What is Good

vv. 10

Verse 10a

a) Planting, Watering & Growing in Godliness

and indeed you do so toward **all the brethren**
who are in all Macedonia.

If we are taught, instructed by God, then what we are taught,
instructed will be good always!!!

Genesis 18:25

"...Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

Verse 10b

b) G0oDness in Love is to be Increasing

But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more (in love)

Somewhere in "**all the brethren**" there had to be alot of growth
and learning....

How is this accomplished ?

#1 By being available to be used and Placed by God as He desires

#2 By God Placing the "Unlovable" in our path

2 Peter 1:4

by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of **the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, add to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness **love**. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

" HOW A CHURCH OUGHT TO LIVE "

3.) Is With a Passion to be Godly

vv. 11

Verse 11a

a) A Disciplined View of Self vv. 11a

“that you also **aspire** to lead a quiet life,

* **Aspire** GRK 5389 **philotimeomai** (fil-ot-im-eh'-om-ahee);
to have ambition toward a project or goal

* **quiet** GRK 2270 **hesuchazo** (hay-soo-khad'-zo)
a mind that is at ease. To be quiet & restful of soul
to be content

(That you be ambitious towards having no ambition)

Verse 11b

b) A Responsible View Toward Others vv. 11b

to mind your own business, **and** to work with your own hands, - as we
commanded you,

The Church needed reminding that they were not to be like their culture...

Slave Labor did the physical work.... leaving the non-slave with

idle time..... is not leisure time

Verse 11c

to mind your own business,

2 Thessalonians 3:10
For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not
work, neither shall he eat.

1 Peter 4:15

But let none of you suffer (be guilty of being) a murderer, a thief,
an evildoer,or as a busybody in other people's matters.

(Gossip is not the gift of tongues)

" HOW A CHURCH OUGHT TO LIVE "

4.) Is With a Mind to Win the Lost

vv. 12

Verse 12a

a) By the Holy Spirit - Live as Examples of Christ

that you may walk properly toward those who are outside,

Colossians 4:5

Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. :6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

- Can Christians drink a beer ? ----- sure
- Can Christians gamble with God's money ? ----- sure
- Can Christians go to shady movies ? ----- sure

but here's the exercise of wisdom - WHY ?

Can Christians drink a beer ?

(you cannot #1 stumble another believer. #2 you cannot come under its influence - fuzzy)

Can Christians gamble with God's money ?

(the Lord will require of us an accounting of our resources in the end)

Can Christians go to shady movies ?

("If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.)

I know **these last couple of weeks** have been a little rough on the fence-walkers and pew-potatoes but pauls motive is to prepare the church to be ready for His coming

Verse 12b

b) We Become a Bridge between God and Men

and that you may lack nothing.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. :18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

if we are accurate - great!
we paint a correct image of God to the world

But if we are inaccurate - how horrible!

Just Like the Thessalonians becoming like the god's they worshipped

2 Peter 1:8

For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJ)

The Christian Life Lived is Power Enough

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|---|-------------------|---|
| 1 | A Holy Life | Abstaining from the sexual immorality of the world vv.1-8 |
| 2 | A Harmonious Life | Loving the Brethren vv. 9-10 |
| 3 | An Honest Life | By working and being responsible vv. 11-12 |