

1 Thessalonians 5:12-15

- I. "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you" Vs 12
- A. Beseech you-ask you, _____ that you
- B. Know-to have an _____ of, more than just a surface knowledge
1. Them that labor among you
 - a. Labor-_____, work
 1. Matt 11:28 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." ESV
 2. "Used to denote not so much the actual exertion which a man makes, but the weariness which he experiences from that exertion. Designates that which we as Christians ought to render to the Lord as labor in the Christian ministry." [Zodhiates, S. (2000). *The complete word study dictionary: New Testament* (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers]
 - b. Labor among you-_____ the body of believers
 - (1) Those in _____ ministry
 - (2) Those who _____ their time and talent for the Lord's work-the majority of those who fulfil God's work
 2. And are over you in the Lord-"to preside" in the sense "to lead, conduct, direct, govern" [*Theological dictionary of the New Testament* (electronic ed., Vol. 6, p. 700)]
 3. And admonish you-_____, to give friendly, earnest advice or encourage
 - a. Rom 15:14 "I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another." ESV
 - b. Col 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." ESV
- II. "And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves." Vs 13
- A. Esteem-to think and _____ with admiration
 1. Very Highly-_____ admiration
 2. For their work's sake-because of the service they render for the work of the Lord
 - a. We need to have such a respect for God and His _____
 - b. That we hold in esteem those whom _____ is using to fulfil that work
- B. And be at peace among yourselves
 1. A _____ for those whom God has placed in a position of leadership and laborer will result in peace _____ those who are being lead and served.
 2. Realizing God is the One who places people in ministry has its _____ effect upon our hearts and minds. After all, those who serve are answerable to the _____ for their labors-whether they be good or bad.
- III. "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. ¹⁵ See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men." Vs 14-15
- A. _____ to all the flock Vs 14
 1. Warn the unruly-
 - a. Warn-admonish by way of _____ them

- b. *Unruly*-spiritually _____; from a military term meaning to march out of step
 - c. Cf. 2 Thess 3:6-7, 11
 - 2. *Comfort the feebleminded*-
 - a. *Comfort*-come along side so as to _____ and aid
 - b. *Feebleminded*-_____ - _____; those who are struggling in their faith
 - 3. *Support the weak*-
 - a. *Support*-help _____ up
 - b. *Weak*-those who are _____ (both physically and spiritually)
 - 4. *Be patient toward all*-
 - a. Be _____ toward every believer in your midst
 - b. Everyone in the local assembly is _____ like you. Longsuffering toward other believers, especially toward those who may hold _____ views than ours, is a must. After all, God is that way toward _____!
 - 5. The admonition of Vs 15 is to be _____ and not so disciplinarian. The body is diverse and has diverse strengths and weaknesses. As a fellow member of the body we must be _____ to be used of God to serve the whole body.
- B. Leave the " _____ " spirit alone Vs 15a
- C. Be _____ to that which God calls "good" Vs 15b