

GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

“Keep the Fire Burning” (1 Thessalonians 5:12-18)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Operation Christmas Child** boxes are due back at the church by next Sunday, November 22.
2. **CAB Central:** be sure to check your email for updates and directions on how to set up your CAB Central account this week. If you don't get an email please reach out to Jackie.levesque@churchatbergen.org for help.

DISCUSSION

1. Icebreaker: see the Leader Resource page (<https://www.churchatbergen.org/group-leader-resources>) and pick an icebreaker from the link called: “75 Icebreaker Questions for Small Groups.”
2. Was there anything that really stood out to you in this past week's sermon? What was it? Why did that particular aspect impress itself upon you?
3. Read verses 12-13. Paul links peace among ourselves with our relationship to our leaders. Why is our peace and our relationships to our leaders connected?
4. What does it look like to respect and esteem a spiritual authority too highly? Or what does it look like regard or esteem spiritual authority too “commonly”?
5. Read verses 14-15. How does Jesus and his gospel uniquely strengthen and empower each of these commands?
6. Which of those commands in verse 14 comes most naturally to you? Which of them do you find most difficult for you to live out?
7. Read verses 16-18. Paul calls us at all times to rejoice, pray, and give thanks. How do each of these activities enhance the other? Or how would losing one of these take away from others?

PRAYER: Take prayer requests in the group and pray for one another that the group would take this sermon seriously in order to “keep the fire of the Spirit” burning in us as a church.

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8. Read verses 19-22. What do you believe about the ongoing gift of prophecy for the church today?

PRAYER: Take prayer requests in the group and pray for one another that the group would take this sermon seriously in order to “keep the fire of the Spirit” burning in us as a church.