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| **1 Thessalonians: Encouragement for a Life of Steadfast Faith**  Chapter 4, verses 9–12 |  |

1. Read (see “Short Guide for Bible Study” handout for tips)
2. Recognize and Research
   1. Trace Paul’s flow of thought in this passage (see diagram worksheet)
   2. What are the terms for “love of the brethren,” and “love” in v. 9?
   3. How did Paul know that the Thessalonians had been “taught by God” to love one another?
   4. What are some of the ways the Thessalonians could have shown love to Macedonian believers?
   5. What does Paul mean by “a quiet life,” “attending to your own business,” and “working with your hands”?
   6. What are the two reasons He gives the Thessalonians for conducting themselves this way?
3. Relate and Reflect
   1. What themes in vv. 9–13 are connected with other portions in this letter? Note any specific connections from earlier verses, then note connections that are later in the letter.
   2. What else does the NT teach us about loving one another?
   3. What else does the NT Teach us about idlness vs working?
   4. What does the OT teach us about love? What about hard work?
   5. How does this passage inform our doctrine of generosity, benevolence, need, and work?
   6. How does this passage inform our doctrine of political action and church/state relations?
   7. How does this passage inform our understanding of our relationship and responsibility toward a watching world?
4. Respond
   1. As men, how do you approach your labors? What are some temptations that Paul’s exhortation helps us to avoid?
   2. What does “a quiet life” of “attending to your own business” look like in 2022?
   3. Other areas of personal application from these verses?