

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Thess 4:9-12

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Thess 4:9-12.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

9 Now

as to the love of the brethren,
you have no need for anyone to write to you,
for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;
10 for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia.
But we urge you, brethren,
to excel still more,
11 and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life
and attend to your own business
and work with your hands,
just as we commanded you,
12 so that you will behave properly toward outsiders
and not be in any need.

1. How is this section connected with the chapter as a whole?
2. What is the main topic of this section?
3. Why does Paul say they have no need for anyone to write to them about love of the brethren?
4. How were the Thessalonians taught by God? What does this mean?

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5. Why is Paul confident that they don't need further instruction (v. 10)?
6. Where have we seen Paul urge the Thessalonians to excel still more?
7. How is urging different than instruction?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Thess 4:9-12 again.

8. What additional items does Paul urge them to in v. 11?
9. Describe/explain further what these items mean in particular.
10. What are all of these items concerning?
11. When did Paul likely command them to these things before?
12. Does Paul address this somewhere else in this letter? Where?

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13. Why does Paul urge them to do these things? (see v. 12)

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Thess 4:9-12 again.

14. Who are the outsiders referred to in v. 12?

15. Why is Paul concerned with what “outsiders” think of the Thessalonians?

16. What does Paul mean to be in need?

17. Why would it be bad for any of the Thessalonians to be in need?

18. Summarize the meaning of this passage in one sentence in 21 words or less.

19. How should this passage shape how you think about your work?

20. How should this passage shape your relationships with “outsiders”?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would love another and work hard.