

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Thessalonians 5:16

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 5:12-22.

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.

16 Rejoice
always.

1. How do the commands of 5:12-22 relate to the whole book of 1 Thess?
2. What is the command in v. 16?
3. What is the frequency with which we are to abide by this command?
4. What does Paul mean by “rejoice”?
5. How is biblical joy different from worldly joy?

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❖ Day 2

Read 1 Thess 5:12-22 again.

6. Where else have we seen joy in 1 Thess?
7. Whose joy is described in each of these other verses?
8. How should the apostle's joy described throughout the letter impact the Thessalonians?
9. How does 1 Thess 1:6 impact the way the Thessalonians would've received this command in 5:16?
10. Why do you think Paul was compelled to command them to rejoice? Why would they need this instruction?
11. This is a positive command in Scripture. What does that make a failure to do this? In other words, if we aren't rejoicing, what are we doing?

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12. Apart from stating “it is commanded” (which is a good reason), why is it necessary for believers to always be rejoicing?

13. What does a non-rejoicing Christian say to the world?

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Thess 5:12-22 again.

14. What reasons for rejoicing might the Thessalonians find within the letter of 1 Thess?

15. What reasons for rejoicing might the Thessalonians find within the gospel and the truths originally proclaimed to them by Paul?

16. Why do you think Paul included the adverb “always”?

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17. What excuses or exceptions are we tempted to make to this broad, persistent command?

18. How should this command impact you, especially in light of the thrust of 1 Thess to “excel still more” or “grow in what you know”?

19. How might this command impact your discipleship of someone?

20. How might this command impact evangelistic conversations?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would be a church filled with constant rejoicing.