

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **September 12, 2021** Family Theme | **Everyday Christianity** Study Text | **1 Thessalonians 5:12-28**

Objective: Family members understand that God's Word gives us practical guidance for living. They put the practical truths of God's Word into practice each day.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 20 years after the resurrection of Christ as Paul instructed the new believers at Thessalonica in some of the practical aspects of Christian living.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. **What is sanctification? Answer:** Sanctification is the process a Christian enters at conversion in which he becomes more and more holy throughout his life (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Read the Word: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children about how we can put the practical instructions from 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 into practice.



Key Truth: Believers Treat Others With Love and Respect (1 Thessalonians 5:12-15)

Human relationships always need attention, even in a church. Paul insisted that people in a Christian congregation respect the leaders who work hard among them. Treating spiritual leaders with disrespect and dishonor distracts and discourages them. Paul also instructed the congregation in how to treat three other groups. The idle needed warning. They needed to work to support themselves. The timid needed encouragement to speak up when needed. The weak needed others to help them. They need our patience and help, not our condemnation. Finally, Paul urged patience with everyone. Kindness to all was to mark believers.



Key Truth: Believers Keep Their Hearts Right With God (1 Thessalonians 5:16-22)

Paul's next instructions seem to move from external acts to attitudes of the heart. First came joy. Knowing Christ and His blessings should lead to joy. Believers who cultivate joy will more easily give themselves to frequent prayer, ready to pray at all times. Joyful believers will more easily display thankfulness, even in difficult situations. Paul specified being thankful *in* all situations — not the same as being thankful *for* all situations. It is God's will for believers to be joyful, prayerful, and thankful. We must also be careful not to stand in the way of something the Spirit wants to do among us. We are to test things by God's Word and hang on to what passes the test. Whenever evil appears, whatever kind of evil it might be, we are to refuse it or avoid it.



Key Truth: God Is Working to Make Believers Holy (1 Thessalonians 5:23-28)

Paul understood that the Creator of the universe and Redeemer of the world was present and active among

the Thessalonian believers. His prayer that God would set them apart for His service and keep them from sin was Paul's primary resource for the congregation because Paul understood God's faithfulness. God wanted the success of the Thessalonian church even more than Paul did. Paul wanted his words to be read aloud to the entire congregation. He understood that what he had written was important for their walks with God.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- Why is it so important that we do what Scripture teaches, rather than just learning what it says?
- How can we show respect and love for our church leaders?
- What are some practical actions we are to take with each other in the body of Christ?
- What does it mean to pray without ceasing?
- What are some things we can do to help keep our hearts on track with the Lord?
- What practical teaching of Scripture do you need to more fully live out this week?
- **For Elementary:** Why is it so important that we do what Scripture teaches, rather than just learning what it says?
- **For Elementary:** What are some verses from God's Word that have encouraged you in getting along with others?

Everyday Extras

Emphasize Paul's three short commands in 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 by giving each one a special day. Have a Rejoicing Day, where everyone in the family must rejoice — no frowns, no tears, no complaining. On Praying Day, everyone should pray often — continually. Pack prayers in lunch boxes, pray about everything that happens. Pray aloud or silently, alone or together. On Thankful Day, give gratitude to God for both good things and bad things that happen. Try to thank God constantly. (This is good practice for Thanksgiving!)

Talk together about these special days. What did you learn? How did you feel? Should these days be special? Or should we practice these attitudes every day? Maybe every Monday will become Rejoicing Day at your house!

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned Saul wanted others to know about and follow Jesus. He and his friend, Barnabas, began telling the Gentiles (people who were not Jews) about Jesus, and Saul began going by the Greek form of his name — Paul. The two men traveled to many cities telling others about Jesus. **I Can Follow Jesus** and tell others about Him.