

1 Thess Class Schedule

6/13/2021	1 Thess 5:8-11	The Duty in Light of the Day of the Lord
6/20/2021	1 Thess 5:12-15	Our Relationship to Spiritual Leaders
6/27/2021	1 Thess 5:16-22	Our Relationship to the Will of God
7/4/2021	1 Thess 5:23-28	Conclusion
7/11/2021	2 Thess 1:1-2	2 Thess Overview and Greetings
7/18/2021	2 Thess 1:3-5	Give Thanks to God for you Brethren
7/25/2021	2 Thess 1:6-8	Righteous Judgment of God
8/1/2021	2 Thess 1:9-10	Consequences of the Righteous Judgment of God
8/8/2021	2 Thess 1:11-12	Prayer in Light of the Righteous Judgment of God

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Outline*

Our Relationship to the Will of God 5:16-22

1. Attitudes to Maintain 5:16-18
2. Relationships to Sustain 5:19-21
 - a. In Regard to the Holy Spirit 5:19-20
 - b. In Regard to All Things 5:21-22

* McCalley 2

Today's verses

¹⁶ Rejoice always;
¹⁷ pray without ceasing;
¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God's will
for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit;
²⁰ do not despise prophetic utterances.

²¹ But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to
that which is good;
²² abstain from every form of evil.

3

¹⁶ Rejoice always

(you) always be rejoicing

Wuest

always - the Greek word *pantote* - derived from *pas* "all"

• Phil 4:4a Rejoice in the Lord always and Phil 3:1

rejoicing - *chiro* - meaning joy to you; present,imperative,active

• The source of joy is always independent of one's
circumstances. McCalley

• the following are the grounds and occasions for
"rejoicing" from Scripture: Vine

• His incarnation: Luke 1:14 "You will have joy and
gladness, and many will **rejoice** at his birth.

• His power: Luke 13:17b and the entire crowd was
rejoicing over all the glorious things being done by Him
(Christ).

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¹⁶ Rejoice always (cont.)

- His presence with the Father: John 14:28 "You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would **have rejoiced** because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.
- His presence with them: John 16:22 "Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart **will rejoice**, and no one will take your joy away from you.
- their hope: Rom 12:12 **rejoicing** in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer.
- suffering with Christ: 1 Peter 4:13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, **keep on rejoicing**, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

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¹⁷ pray without ceasing

(you) **be praying unceasingly**

praying is present tense (continuous action), middle voice (for your own benefit)

unceasingly - *adialeiptōs* - without ceasing, is used of that which is constantly recurring

- Paul is not saying, "Say prayers all of the time," but rather, "Maintain a reverential and prayerful attitude in the midst of all of your activities."
- The adverb *without ceasing* does not refer to uninterrupted prayer but to constantly recurring prayer.

McCalley

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¹⁷ pray without ceasing (cont.)

- Rom 1:9 For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the *preaching of the* gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how **unceasingly** I make mention of you, ¹⁰ always in my prayers making request.
- 1 Thess 1:2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention of you in our prayers ³ **constantly bearing in mind** your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father.
- 1 Thess 2:13 For this reason we also **constantly thank** God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

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¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

(you) **give thanks** - *eucharisteō* - to show oneself grateful, to be thankful, to give thanks.
present tense continuous action

modifier: **in everything** - *pas* – all, with no exceptions

- Paul is saying that a thankful attitude is not dependent upon pleasing or gratifying circumstances.
- Give thanks is used in the following verses:

Eph 5:20 always **giving thanks** for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God

Col 3:17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks through Him** to God the Father.

8

¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

for this *is* the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (Wuest)

for - this tells us why it makes sense to give thanks

this is the will of God

this – refers back to give thanks

the will – *thelēma*

- Will, not to be conceived as a demand, but as an expression or inclination of pleasure towards that which is liked, that which pleases and creates joy.
- When it denotes God's will, it signifies His gracious disposition toward something.
- Used to designate what God Himself does of His own good pleasure.

Zodhiates

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¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

for this *is* the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (Wuest)

in Christ Jesus

- So this giving of thanks is in our living union with Christ.
- God's will can only be carried out by those who are in Christ Jesus.
- Only a person in Christ Jesus will have the motivation to give thanks in everything.
- God's will for those not in Christ Jesus is to believe on the Lord Jesus and be saved.

Acts 16:31

10

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit

(you) **do not quench the Spirit** - new topic!

quench - *sbennymi* - figuratively to dampen, hinder, repress, as in preventing the Holy Spirit from exerting His full influence
(present, imperative, active)

The negative [not] is used in such a way as to prohibit the continuation of an ongoing action. McCalley

lit: **Stop quenching!**

- Quenching the Spirit is a figurative expression used to illustrate the possibility of hindering the Spirit's work in and through the believer.
- The image is that of water thrown on a fire.

Constable

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¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit (cont.)

The following verses show us the proper relationship of the believer to the Holy Spirit:

- Gal 5:16 But I say, **walk** by [by means of] the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- Gal 5:25 If we **live** by [by means of] the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

The next verse gives one way in which believers can quench the Spirit. Constable

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²⁰ do not despise prophetic utterances

- Again this is an action that is assumed to be already ongoing.
- Lit: **Stop despising prophecies.**

despise - *exoutheneō* - to make of no account, to regard as nothing, to despise utterly, to treat with contempt. (present, imperative, active)

prophecies - *prophēteia* - signifies the speaking forth of the mind and counsel of God

- In this text the noun is plural and clearly refers to utterances or messages of the many prophets that may have been in the church at Thessalonica. Keathley
- Stop counting as nothing divine revelations given in the local assembly by the one who receives them.

Wuest

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²¹ But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to that which is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil.

But examine everything *carefully*

but - *de* – in contrast to despising prophetic utterances

(you) **examine** - *dokimázō* – to put to the test for the purpose of approving them
(present, imperative, active)

everything – *pas* – all, none excluded

- 1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits** to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- 1 John 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

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²¹ But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to that which is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil.

(you) **hold fast** - *katechō* - to hold firmly
(present, imperative, active)

Hold fast, as used in this context, means to hold fast to in the sense of retain and guard. Keathley

the good - true and in accord with the revelation of God in Christ Keathley

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the *faith* which was once for all handed down to the saints.

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²¹ But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to that which is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil.

abstain from every form of evil

(you) **abstain** - *apechō* - to hold oneself from, in the middle voice, to keep oneself from
(present, imperative, middle)

from every form of evil

form - *eidos* - lit., "that which is seen"; Christians are exhorted to abstain from "every form of evil," RV (the AV, "appearance" is inadequate),
i.e., from every kind of evil. Vine

The contrast is not between what is really good and what only appears as evil, but what is in reality evil as a result of the testing. Keathley

Thus, believers must examine everything carefully and avoid that which does not conform to the truth. Keathley

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Final Thoughts *



- There will be many professed spiritual manifestations that do not contribute but rather detract from the development of spiritual growth and progress in the faith.
- As a further application of this command [abstain from evil], using the truth as our index for testing, believers are to avoid every kind or form of evil in thought and deed, everything that might produce beliefs and behavior contrary to the [truth].

* Keathley