

1 Thessalonians 4:9-18

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1. What command of God were the Thessalonians known for obeying?

1 Thess. 4:9

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**;

Love one another

1. What command of God were the Thessalonians known for obeying?

A. Paul is giving the Thessalonians instruction. He is doing so in an encouraging way.

B. The identifying mark of the Thessalonians was they “love one another”.

1. What command of God were the Thessalonians known for obeying?

John 13:34-35

34 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

35 “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

1. What command of God were the Thessalonians known for obeying?

Rom. 5:5

5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**A. At baptism Christians receive the Holy Spirit.
(Acts 2:38–39; Acts 15:8; 1 Cor. 12:13)**

**B. The Holy Spirit indwells them. (John 14:16–17;
Rom. 8:11; Eph. 1:13–14; 5:18; 2 Tim. 1:14;
1 John 2:27)**

**C. The Holy Spirit teaches Christians to love.
(John 14:26; John 16:13; Rom. 5:3–5; 1 Cor. 2:10).**

2. How can you better practice loving other believers?

1 Thess. 4:10

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,

Excel even more

2. How can you better practice loving other believers?

A. Believers are always to keep growing.

B. No matter how well believers are doing, they can always improve.

C. Christians should push themselves to keep doing better.

D. The newly established churches in Philippi (Acts 16:12–40) and Berea (Acts 17:10–14) were reaping the benefits of the Thessalonians' love.

2. How can you better practice loving other believers?

1 Peter 1:22-23

22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God.

3. What is the result of living a quiet, respectful and responsible life?

1 Thess. 4:11-12

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.

3. What is the result of living a quiet, respectful and responsible life?

Christians are to make it their ambition to:

A. Lead a quiet life.

B. Attend to their own business.

C. Work with their hands.

Gen 2:15

15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.

3. What is the result of living a quiet, respectful and responsible life?

The results of these attributes are:

A. You will behave properly in the presence of outsiders.

B. You are responsible to God for your own behavior.

4. What is the core of the gospel as mentioned in verse 14? Why are these two facts so important to the gospel?

1 Thess. 4:13-14

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

4. What is the core of the gospel as mentioned in verse 14? Why are these two facts so important to the gospel?

Jesus Christ (God):

- A. Had the power to come to earth as a man.**
- B. Had the power to die and arise from the dead.**
- C. Had the power to ascend back into heaven.**
- D. Has the power to return to earth.**
- E. Has the power to take all believers to heaven with Him.**

5. Why did Paul emphasize to the Thessalonians that his teaching on this subject were based on “the Lord’s Word” in verse 15?

1 Thess. 4:15

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

5. Why did Paul emphasize to the Thessalonians that his teaching on this subject were based on “the Lord’s Word” in verse 15?

1 Thess. 2:13

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.

2 Tim. 3:16

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

6. Describe the events in verse 16-18.

1 Thess. 4:16-18

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

6. Describe the events in verse 16-18.

A. The Lord Himself will descend from heaven.

1. A shout

2. The voice of the archangel

3. The trumpet of God

B. The dead in Christ will rise first.

C. Believers who are alive will be caught up right after the dead have risen.

6. Describe the events in verse 16-18.

D. The great union of the living with the dead will take place in the clouds to meet the Lord.

E. Christians will be living face to face with the Lord in heaven.

F. This exhortation is to comfort one another with these words.

7. How does the promise of the Lord descending from heaven encourage Christians to live a faithful life?

Christians should prepare and and be ready to meet the Lord.

The Lord has given believers the hope of:

- a. Living forever face to face with Him.
- b. Worshiping and serving Him forever in heaven.