

sermon notes

June 5, 2022 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship
Kingdom Called | "Attitude Adjustment" | **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

Three resolutions to fix your attitude:

1. I choose to be _____ (5:16)
2. I choose to be _____ (5:17)
3. I choose to be _____ (5:18)

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. What are the three commands that Paul gives in this passage? When you've got an attitude problem, how do you deal with it? How might Paul's commands in this passage help you adjust your attitude? How might the three resolutions above (I choose to be joyful, prayerful, thankful) help you in a season of despair or anger?

Is joy something that naturally bubbles up in the life of a Christian (as a fruit of the Spirit), or is it something that a Christian must pursue and cultivate? Can you be joyful and sorrowful simultaneously? Interact with the following statement: "Christians have the remarkable capacity to be both more joyful and more sorrowful than non-Christians." Agree or disagree?

Is it possible to pray unceasingly? When would you eat, sleep, talk, or rest? What does Paul mean with his command, "Pray without ceasing" (5:17)? Read the following passages on prayer: Luke 18:1-8; Ephesians 5:17-20; 1 Timothy 2:1-4. How does a Christian practically obey Paul's command in 1 Thessalonians 5:17? What should a Christian's commitment be to personal prayer? What about corporate prayer?

GET PERSONAL

According to the Bible, ingratitude is a trait of unbelievers (Rom 1:21; 2 Tim 3:1-5). On a scale from 1 to 10, grade your own "attitude of gratitude." Are you a grateful person? Are you grateful to God for all that he's done for you? Does your personal thankfulness to God translate into a lifestyle that is easily seen by others in this world?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Of those three commands that God gives us in 5:16-18 (joyfulness, prayerfulness, thankfulness), which is the most difficult for you? Is it possible to rejoice in each and every circumstance in life? What about when you are dealing with a tragedy? What about when you are dealing with death or a great injustice?

ADVANCED QUESTION

It's difficult sometimes to discern God's will in our lives. But according to 1 Thessalonians, what is God's will for our lives (4:3; 5:16-18)? Why does Paul emphasize these things as "God's will" instead of other things (e.g., Where you should live? What kind of job you should pursue, etc.)? How do you carry out God's will (sanctification, rejoicing, prayer, gratitude) in your daily life?