

“Get Connected” Interactive Discussion Guide

This Week’s Core Commitment (Virtue): Kindness/Goodness, 1 Thessalonians 5:15

I choose to do the right things in my relationships with others.

This Week’s SERVICE Focus: Volunteerism

We will commit to the Body of Christ at IBCB through weekly prayer and participation in worship as well as through involvement in ministries such as preschool, children, youth, ushers, and music as God gifts and guides.

Option 1—Growth Group Study: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

(Plan 30 minutes for your “study time” by focusing on the * questions. If you need to fill out or add to your discussion, select other questions. However, be sure to leave time for “SERVICE” and prayer.)

Open It

1. ***What instructions would you give to someone taking care of your home while you were away on a long vacation?**
2. If you could ask God any three questions about how to live your life, what would you ask?

Explore It

3. How does God want us to regard church elders? ([5:12-13](#))
4. ***How does God want us to treat each other? ([5:13-15](#))**
5. ***What attitudes represent God’s will for us? ([5:16-18](#))**
6. How should we pray? ([5:17](#))
7. When should we give thanks? ([5:18](#))
8. What is God’s will for us? ([5:16-18](#))
9. How should we show respect for the Holy Spirit’s presence in us? ([5:19-22](#))
10. What does God want to happen inside us? ([5:23](#))
11. For what reason can we depend on God? ([5:24](#))
12. ***What kind of affection did Paul have for the Thessalonian Christians? ([5:26](#))**
13. Who was to hear the contents of this letter? ([5:27](#))

Get It

14. How can you show respect for the elders of your church?
15. ***What can we do to live in peace with everyone in the church?**
16. How can the peace among people in the church be damaged?
17. What situations tend to test your patience?
18. What does it mean to pray continually?
19. What happens when you pay back evil to a person who has done wrong to you?
20. Why should we give thanks in all circumstances?
21. What value is there in giving thanks in all circumstances?
22. ***How can you remain joyful when things go badly?**
23. How does prayer relate to a person’s joy?
24. How could a person put out the Spirit’s fire?
25. How can we tell if God is actually at work in us?
26. How can we help or hinder God’s work within us?

Apply It

27. ***Which of Paul’s short, direct commands in this passage do you most need to remember this week?**
28. With whom do you need to make peace? How can you start?

Option 2—Discussion of Sunday's Sermon

- What did you like?
- What did you not like?
- What did you not understand?
- How does it reinforce this week's core commitment?
- What do you want to do in response?
- What do we want to do in response?
- What will you take away?

Option 3—Relate Your Study to Our Core Commitments

- What Core Commitment(s) does our study reinforce?
- What can we learn from this passage about this week's Core Commitments?
- How can we live this passage individually? As a group?
- What do we agree to do in response to this passage?