

“Walking Honestly”

1 Thess. 4:9-12

Introduction

- I. The church in Thessalonica was encouraged to increase their love (1 Thess. 4:10).
- II. Likewise the church in Thessalonica was to live in such ways as to “walk honestly” (1 Thess. 4:11-12)
 - A. “Study to be quiet.”
 - B. “Do your own business.”
 - C. “Work with your own hands.”

Discussion

- I. In order to “walk honestly”, we must “study to be quiet”.
 - A. This is not a command to remain silent under all circumstances (Mark 16:15; 2 Tim. 4:2; Eph. 5:19; Prov. 26:4-5).
 - B. Rather this is a command that takes time and effort to perform consistently.
 - C. We should give forth effort to live our lives in such a way as not to be “rabble rousing, nit picking, big mouths”.
 1. Proverbs 17:1
 2. Eccl. 4:6
 3. Matt. 5:9
 4. We should pray to live such lives, live according to God's Word, and strive for peace (1 Tim. 2:2; Isa. 32:17; Rom. 14:19).
- II. In order to “walk honestly”, we must “do our own business”.
 - A. Have you ever noticed how many websites, television shows, and tabloids discuss issues in other people's lives?
 - B. Christians should be concerned about their own business.
 1. Do not be a “busybody” (2 Thess. 3:11-12; 1 Tim. 5:13).
 2. Prov. 22:29
 3. Col. 3:23
 4. What happens when we do not mind our own business (Prov. 1:10-19)?
- III. In order to “walk honestly”, we must “work with our own hands”.
 - A. Christians should be doing work that helps to provide for their families and those in need (Eph. 4:28).
 - B. It has been said that “idle hands are the devil's workshop”.
 - C. Decent work is not a bad thing.
 1. 1 Tim. 5:8
 2. Acts 20:34-35
 3. Prov. 6:6-11
 4. Prov. 13:4
 5. Prov. 14:23

Conclusion

- I. If we apply these things to our lives, we can be ones that “walk honestly”.
- II. If we refuse to follow these guidelines, we will only bring ourselves more trouble.