

CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD OTHERS

SCRIPTURE - 1 Th 5:12-15 And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, {13} and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves. {14} Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all {15} See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

INTRODUCTION

- A. GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONCERNED WITH OUR RELATIONSHIPS.
- B. 1 THESS 5:12-15 SHOWS IMPORTANT THINGS IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE AROUND US IN JUST FOUR VERSES.

I. RECOGNIZE & ESTEEM HIGHLY IN LOVE - 12-13a

- A. THOSE WHO LABOR AMONG YOU
- B. THOSE WHO ARE OVER YOU IN THE LORD
- C. THOSE WHO ADMONISH YOU
- D. REASON...FOR THEIR WORK'S SAKE

II. BE AT PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER - 13b

- A. Mat 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God,
- B. Rom 12:18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

III. WARN THE UNRULY – 14a

- A. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness considering yourself lest you also be tempted.
- B. 1 Cor 5:12-13 For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? {13} But those who are outside God judges. Therefore, put away from yourselves the evil person.
- C. 2 Th 3:14-15 And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. {15} Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

IV. COMFORT THE FAINT-HEARTED (EASILY DISCOURGED & ANXIOUS) – 14b

- A. 1 Th 2:11 as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children,
- B. 1 Th 5:11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

V. UPHOLD THE WEAK - 14c

- A. Heb 12:12-13 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, {13} and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.
- B. Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- C. Rom 15:1 We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

VI. BE PATIENT WILL ALL – 14d

- A. Eph 4:1-2 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, {2} with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,
- B. Col 3:12-13 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; {13} bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

VII. DO NOT RENDER EVIL FOR EVIL – 15a

- A. Mat 5:44 "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,
- B. Rom 12:17-21 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. {18} If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. {19} Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lords {20} Therefore If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. {21} Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- C. 1 Pet 3:9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

VIII. PURSUE WHAT IS GOOD FOR YOURSELVES AND ALL – 15b

- A. Gal 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.
- B. Phil 2:3-4 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. {4} Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others-

CONCLUSION – HOW ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS?

1. RECOGNIZE & ESTEEM HIGHLY IN LOVE YOUR LEADERS - 12-13a
2. BE AT PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER - 13b
3. WARN THE UNRULY – 14a
4. COMFORT THE FAINT-HEARTED (EASILY DISCOURGED & ANXIOUS) – 14b
5. UPHOLD THE WEAK - 14c
6. BE PATIENT WILL ALL – 14d
7. DO NOT RENDER EVIL FOR EVIL – 15a
8. PURSUE WHAT IS GOOD FOR YOURSELVES AND ALL – 15b
9. IT IS ALL SUMMED UP IN ONE WORD – LOVE - Rom 13:8-10 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. {9} For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," {10} Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.