

*Edgemont Bible Church*  
*Pastor Al Osden*  
*Thessalonians*

Nov. 27, 2016

Intro:

X. Faith were the rubber meets the Road

A. Love One Another More - vs 9-10

1. But concerning

a. in contrast to sexual immorality - 4:3-8; Eph 5:1-3

b. a change of subject - from sexual immorality to brotherly love

2. brotherly love

a. **Philadelphia** - fraternal affection:--brotherly love (kindness), love of the brethren.

b. initially dealt with love for blood relatives - in the NT refers to Christian affection - Ro 12:10; Heb 13:1; 1Pe 1:22; 2Pe 1:7

c. A reoccurring theme in the NT always demonstrating itself in selfless acts of service - Mt 25:35-40; Jo 13:34-35; Ro 12:15; 1 Co 12:26; 16:14; 2 Co 8:7; Gal 5:13; 6:2; Eph 5:2; Phil 1:9; Col 3:14; Heb 6:10; 10:24; Jas 1:27

3. you have no need that I should write to you,

a. for you yourselves - used for emphatic expression

b. are taught by God

i. **theodidaktos** - divinely instructed:--taught of God.

ii. to love one another - characteristic of the new heart and gifting that God had given them - Ro 5:5

c. and indeed - in reality/ without question

d. you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia.

i. not just toward their congregation, but for all the brethren

ii. Referring to other churches in Macedonia - Philippi, Berea, etc.

e. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more - 1Th 3:10

i. **perisseuo** - to superabound, be in excess, be superfluous;

abundance (be more) abundant, be the better, enough and to spare, exceed, excel, increase, be left, redound, remain (over and above).

- toward Pastors - 1 Thess 5:12-13

- toward other believers - 1 Thess 5:14-15, 26; 1 Pe 1:22

ii. **Mallon** - more (in a greater degree)) or rather:-- (the) more (and more), (so) much (the more), rather.

B. Lead A Quiet Life - vs 11a

1. two verbs that are almost contradictory are used here

a. that you also aspire to - **philotimeomai** - to be zealous and strive eagerly, to consider it an honor - Ro 15:20; 2 Co 5:9

b. lead a quiet life - **hesuchazo** - to be silent - Lk 14:4; Acts 21:14; not

speaking out inappropriately - 1 tim 2:11-12; remaining at rest or tranquil - Lk 23:56

c. while waiting for the Lord's return - 1:10, believers are to lead peaceful lives, free from conflict and hostility toward others - 1 Tim 2:2

#### C. Mind Your Own Business - vs 11b

##### 1. Attend to your own business

a. common in Greek secular writings

b. Used only here in NT

c. it is not clear if Paul is speaking to a specific issue or particular group in the Church

d. possibly a general exhortation to

i. concentrate on their own lives

ii. Take care of their own jobs

iii. Not meddle in the affairs of others

e. 2 Thess 3:11-12 has a follow-up exhortation

i. those who did not attend to their own business were acting like "busybodies"

ii. **periergazomai** - to work all around, bustle about (meddle), be a busybody.

f. Paul's solution to leading a peaceful life was to serve fellow believers and glorify the Lord before unbelievers – Pro 27:23-27; Eph 6:5-7; Col 3:22-24; 1Ti 6:1-2

i. Mind your own business, - Ga 6:5

ii. Work faithfully and diligently at your own jobs - Eph 4:28

iii. Stay out of other people's business

#### D. Work with Your Own Hands - vs 11c-12

##### 1. Greeks believed that free men should never stoop to do manual labor

a. work done with hands was degrading

b. a good reason to have slaves

c. Most in the early church were from the working class for whom

i. Manual labor was dignified an honorable endeavor

ii. Paul commanded them to persevere at their jobs

##### 2. Apparently many working class and slaves had taken the attitude that since

a. they were free in Christ perhaps they were no longer under obligation to their masters or their jobs

b. Christ was returning

i. instead of supporting themselves through honest labor

ii. Thinking the time would be short, they were likely depending on the resources of others to support them

##### 3. Paul's exhortation for living in peace with others

a. and to work with your own hands, - 2Th 3:11-12;

b. as we commanded you, - 2Th 3:7-8,

- c. that you may walk properly toward those who are outside,
- i. Integrity – **tom** - completeness; prosperity; usually (morally) innocence:--full, integrity, perfect(-ion), simplicity, upright(-ly, -ness), at a venture. Job 2:3; Ps 26:1;
  - ii. blameless/ good – **kalos** - beautiful, good, valuable or virtuous, fair, good(-ly), honest, meet, well, worthy. – Mt 5:16; Phil 2:15-16; 1 Pe 2:12
  - iii. Even in a world that wants to make their millions in a minute, hard work is what gives credibility to the Gospel - Ro 13:13; 2Co 8:21; Col 4:5; 1Pe 2:12
- d. and that you may lack nothing. – when one seeks first the kingdom of God, God takes care of their needs