

Title: What Does a Grown Up Christian Look Like?

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

Date: November 19, 2017

Background. Paul is continuing with his pastoral exhortations of how the church should worship and act daily. Specifically, it is a call to recognize God in every situation regardless of the circumstances, and worship accordingly by the Spirit

Main Idea. Rejoicing is a command for all situations that brings us to prayer and helps us grow so we can sense the movements of the Holy Spirit in our life.

Group Questions:

1. Why do you think the New Testament writers put such a high degree of emphasis upon “Rejoicing”? It is mentioned 74 times in the New Testament alone.
2. What are situations in your life that immediately stop you from rejoicing and shift your focus from God?
3. Reflecting on this past year, would you say you have been quick to turn to God in good situations? In bad situations?
4. What are things that you have “prayed constantly” over? What are some strategies that would help you develop a habit of prayer?
5. Do you struggle with praying constantly? Is it because of spiritual laziness? Are you too comfortable? Are you afraid of God’s plan being different from yours?
6. Verse 18 tells us to “give thanks in everything”. How is this different than “giving thanks *for* everything?” How can you apply this during the week of Thanksgiving?
7. Times when we “stifle” the Spirit often occur when we are uncomfortable. Can you describe a situation where you have been so uncomfortable that you were disobedient to the Lord?
8. Think of the most spiritual person you know. What characteristics about them draw you to them? Can you describe them by using verses 16-19?
9. What are ways that you look for the Will of God to be spoken through other believers (prophecy)? Do you often act like the Thessalonians and quickly disregard sound pieces of wisdom from others?
10. The way to decipher God’s Will is through His Word. Are you confident in your Biblical knowledge to “hold on to the good” and “stay away from every kind of evil”?