

# Living Christianly

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Thessalonians 5:12-28.
- B. The low ethical behavior of many Christians is troublesome.
- C. The mark of true Christian faith is that it affects one in every area of his life.
- D. Subject: guidelines on how to live christianly.

## II. To leadership.

- A. Leaders are not superior to other believers.
- B. Leaders “stand before” other believers.
- C. Leaders are to be respected and recognized.
- D. Churches would not properly function without leaders.
- E. The church is to be at peace within itself—it is not to play favorites with leaders.

## III. To others.

- A. All believers are to be good to one another.
- B. Idlers, the fainthearted and the weak are to deserve special attention.
  - 1. Idlers are to be warned.
  - 2. The faint-hearted are to be encouraged.
  - 3. The weak are to be helped—especially the weak in faith. (Romans 14)
- C. Three attitudes.
  - 1. Patience.
  - 2. Non-retaliation.
  - 3. Helpfulness.

## IV. To God.

- A. In circumstances

1. We rejoice. Trials grow us. (James)
2. We are to pray. We do not always need someone to help us because we have God's power through prayer.
3. We are to rejoice as a testimony to God.

B. In guidance.

1. Do not quench the Spirit's prompting.
2. Do not despise the Scripture's wisdom.
  - a. Words need to be tested by the Word of God.
  - b. If the Word does not support something, throw it out.

C. In resources.

1. God gives us the power to obey.
2. We must choose to obey in order to receive the power though.
3. We only have a limited time to endure trials and testing. Only what is done through Christ will last.

**Application questions:**

1. How would you respond to someone who argues that a pastor is superior to his congregation?

---

---

2. Why does the speaker advise his listeners not to go to another person every time when we are need? Do you agree? Explain.

---

---

3. Which three realms of living Christianly before God stands out to you? How does this challenge you to lean more upon him in every day matters? Give an example.

---

---