

Women of Grace

c. 1 Peter 1:22

d. 2 Peter 1:7

3. How did the Thessalonians learn to love each other? How do believers learn to love each other? See John 14:26; 16:13; Romans 5:3-5 and 1 Corinthians 2:10.

4. How can the way that we love others be a reflection of the way that we view how God loves?

5. If Paul was to write you a letter in regards to your love of the brethren, what do you think he would need to address? Spend some time in prayer asking the Lord to grow you in a specific area of love.

6. Read Psalm 119:12, 26, 33, 66. From these verses, what should our prayer be?

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Day 2: Excel in Love (v. 10)

for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,
— 1 Thessalonians 4:10

1. What should characterize true *agape* love?
2. How far had their love spread? What churches would their love have reached? See Acts 16:12-40 and 17:10-14.
3. The Thessalonians were commended for not only loving the members of their own church, but also other believers in the area. How can we love other believers in Edmonton and the surrounding areas? Around the world?
4. What did Paul urge them to do?
5. What does it mean to “excel still more” in loving others? What are some practical ways that we can do this?

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5. Many of us live in homes where most of the members are also believers. How might living a quiet life look different if you were the only believer in your home?
6. We are called to share the gospel and make disciples. How do we accomplish that goal while striving to live a quiet life?
7. Is there any area of your life where you are not living a quiet life? (e.g.: social media debates, not living at peace with others). What changes can you make so that you are able to fulfill this command?

Day 4: Your Ambition – Part 2 (v. 11)

and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you,
— 1 Thessalonians 4:11

1. What is the opposite of “attending to your own business”?

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Day 5: Know How to Behave (v. 12)

so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.
— 1 Thessalonians 4:12

1. What is the purpose of the commands that Paul gives in this passage?
2. How are the ideals of socialism (and similar worldviews) in direct contradiction to Scripture? Use Scripture to support your answer.
3. What does “behaving properly” look like? See 1 Thessalonians 2:12; 4:1.
4. Why would asking “outsiders” to fill our needs when we refuse to work be detrimental to our testimony?
5. What does Paul tell us about someone who does not provide for his household? See 1 Timothy 5:8.

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Dig Deeper

1. We often speak of the put off/put on principle. In verse 11, we are exhorted to put on quiet living, minding our own business, and working with our hands. What are we to be putting off to be able to put on these things?
2. Assuming that the work is not immoral or illegal, is some work better or more worthy of honor than other work?
3. Do we give greater honor to those who have certain kinds of jobs – e.g., white collar vs. blue collar work? Should we view work that way?
4. How should we view work? Is it something difficult, a trial that needs to be passed through, or a gift from God?
5. Is work a result of the curse in Genesis 3?

