

LESSON 7

THE LAST WORD

1 THESSALONIANS 5:12–28



1 What are some famous “last words” you have heard or read?

2 What final piece of advice would you give a son or daughter about to leave for college?



Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12–28 and the following notes:

☐ 5:14 ☐ 5:17 ☐ 5:18 ☐ 5:19 ☐ 5:28

3 What are a Christian’s responsibilities toward leaders (5:12, 13)?

4 What should Christians do for one another (5:14, 15)?

5 What were Paul's final instructions about a Christian's relationship with God (5:16–22)?

In these closing words, Paul summarized much of what he had been teaching the Thessalonian Christians. With instructions about their relationships with leaders, with one another, and with God, he gave a balanced view of what the Christian life should be. If believers fail in any of these relationships, it soon shows up in other areas. By dishonoring the people God places in our life, we dishonor God.



6 How do some Christians honor their church leaders?

7 In 5:14, what does it mean to . . .

“warn those who are lazy”? _____

“encourage those who are timid”? _____

“take tender care of those who are weak”? _____

“be patient with everyone”? _____

8 How do people retaliate?

9 What is the difference between joy and happiness?

10 What is a prayerful attitude?

11 How can a Christian always be thankful “no matter what happens” (5:18)?

12 How might a person “stifle the Holy Spirit” (5:19)?



13 Which acts of obedience do you consider most difficult?

14 What steps could you take to overcome those difficulties and be more obedient?

15 Which of the steps listed above will you take this week?



16 When will you do it?

A What does it mean for God to make someone “holy in every way” (5:23)? How do you resist God’s work in your life? Which area(s) of your life do you tend to keep from God? What change(s) would make you more consistent?

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