

With The Master In View of His Return

Lesson 17 - The Responsibilities of the Shepherd and the Sheep - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

1. (a) Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12 and 13 and list the responsibilities of the leadership in the church and list the responsibilities of the parishioners in the church. (b) How have you seen your leadership fulfill their God-given roles that are mandated in this passage? (c) How have you fulfilled your God-given roles that are mandated in this passage?
  
2. Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:12 *OR* 13!
  
3. (a) What are our responsibilities towards our spiritual leaders according to 1 Timothy 5:17, 18 and Hebrews 13:17? (b) Are you actively doing this? (c) How could you be a better sheep in your church?
  
4. (a) What spiritual leaders were to be recognized and why according to the following verses? 1 Corinthians 16:15-18; Philippians 2:25-30; Hebrews 13:7. (b) In what ways does your church recognize its spiritual leaders?
  
5. (a) Paul tells the church to be at peace with each other (1 Thessalonians 5:13). Why is it important that we be at peace with one another according to the following verses? 2 Corinthians 13:11; Galatians 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 12:14; James 3:18 and 1 Peter 3:10-12. (b) Is peace always possible according to Matthew 10:34-42 and Romans 12:18? (c) Are you endeavoring to be at peace with all people, especially your leadership? If not, why not?
  
6. Do you know your spiritual leaders? Can you name all the leaders in your church, their wives and children? Do you know how they came to faith in Christ? Do you know their struggles, victories and joys? Do you know what trial they are going through right now? Do you pray for them? Do you know how to effectively pray for them? Have you ever taken the time to get with them for the purpose of getting to know them?
  
7. In what way could you be a better sheep? Please put your answer in the form of a prayer request. Also, please write a second prayer request for the pastor of your church.