

## LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT—10

### “Consider God’s Sheep Dogs”

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Introduction: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### I. FIRST, THE SHEEP MUST \_\_\_\_\_ THEIR SHEEPDOG’S DESCRIPTION (1 Thessalonians 5:12a).

- A. First, we are to “*know*” them in relation to the \_\_\_\_\_ in their work (5:12a). “... *them which labour among you . . .*”
- B. Secondly, we are to “*know*” them by realizing the \_\_\_\_\_ they hold (5:12b) “... *and are over you in the Lord . . .*”
- C. Thirdly, we are to “*know*” them by recognizing the \_\_\_\_\_ they display (5:12c) “... *and admonish you.*”

#### II. SECONDLY, THE SHEEP MUST \_\_\_\_\_ THEIR SHEEPDOG RESPECT (1 Thessalonians 5:13).

What are our responsibilities toward our spiritual leadership?

- A. First, we must openly \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- B. Secondly, we must express \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

C. Thirdly, we are to exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ toward them.

D. Fourthly, we must exercise \_\_\_\_\_ to them (Hebrews 13:17).

#### III. SECONDLY, THE SHEEP MUST \_\_\_\_\_ IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ONE ANOTHER (1 Thessalonians 5:13b). “*And be at peace among yourselves.*”

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER . . .

1. How can we change the common idea that the church is made up of “spiritual consumers,” rather than committed, serving members?
2. In choosing a solid, fundamental Bible believing church, what qualities would you look for?
3. How would you think the Lord would have you more committed to this local church?
4. Spiritual authority sounds sort of scary (We think of some abusive cult leaders!) Do we give this the proper biblical emphasis? (See Titus 2:15 & Hebrews 13:17).