

LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT—11

“Beatitudes for Good Behavior”

1 Thessalonians 5:14-22

Introduction: _____

I. FIRST, NOTICE HIS ADVICE OF THE NEGATIVE SIDE (1 Thessalonians 5:14-15).

A. First, we are to expressively warn those who are out of step with the Lord (5:14b) “. . . **warn them that are unruly . . .**”

B. Secondly, we are to show exceedingly help for the depressed (5:14c). “**comfort the feebleminded.**”

C. Thirdly, we are to exceptionally uphold the weak (5:14d). “. . . **support the weak . . .**”

D. Fourthly, we are to explicitly show patience toward all (5:14c). “. . . **patient toward all men.**”

E. Fifthly, we are to examine our motives (5:15).

II. SECONDLY, CONSIDER HIS ADMONISHMENTS ON THE POSITIVE SIDE (1 Thessalonians 5:16-22).

A. First, make the choice to rejoice. (5:16) “**Rejoice evermore.**” BE JOYFUL!

B. Secondly, connect with the Lord continually. (5:17). “**Pray without ceasing.**” BE PRAYERFUL!

1. First, to pray without ceasing involves constant awareness.
2. Secondly, to pray without ceasing includes complete obedience.
3. Thirdly, to pray without ceasing incorporates continual conversation.

C. Thirdly, this is God’s will for your way (5:18) “**In everything give thanks; for this the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. BE THANKFUL!**”

D. Fourthly, keep the _____ burning in the furnace (5:19). “**Quench not the Spirit.**” BE _____!

E. Fifthly, prize the _____ of God’s Word (5:20). “**Despise not prophesyings.**” BE _____!

F. Sixthly, test all _____ through God’s Word (5:21a) “**Prove all things . . .**” BE _____!

G. Seventhly, don’t _____ from doing right (5:21b). “. . . **hold fast that which is good . . .**” BE _____!

H. Eighthly, _____ yourself from anything that appears to be evil (5:22) “**Abstain from all appearance of evil.**” BE _____!