

LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT—12

“*Good News for Unfinished People*”

“*pbpwmginfwmy*”

1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

Introduction: _____

I. **FIRST, NOTICE THE CHALLENGE FOR A LIFE OF SANCTIFICATION (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24).**

- A. First, notice that the *Person* of holiness is the God of peace Himself (5:23a). “*And the God of peace himself . . .*”
- B. Secondly, note the *purpose* of holiness is ultimately bringing us to maturity (5:23b) “. . . *sanctify you wholly . . .*”

Look at all three parts of your being:

- 1. First, when your body is right, you are *healthy*.
 - 2. Secondly, when your soul is right, you are *happy*.
 - 3. Thirdly, when your spirit is right, you are *holy*.
- C. Thirdly, notice that the *prospect* of holiness involves our entire being (5:23c). “. . . *and I pray your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

2.

D. Fourthly, notice how our *position* in the future is set (5:23d). “. . . *be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

- 1. First, holiness *means* to be without blame before the Lord and others.
 - 2. Secondly, holiness is *motivated* by the fact that Christ is coming to reward His people.
 - 3. Thirdly, holiness is *maintained* by God’s calling, His faithfulness and His strength. (5:14). “*Faithful is he who calleth you, who also will do it.*”
- ### II. **SECONDLY, NOTE THE CHALLENGE TO A LIFE OF _____ (1 Thessalonians 5:25-28).**
- A. First, a life of service involves _____ for one another (5:25).
 - B. Secondly, a life of service includes _____ for one another (5:26).
 - C. Thirdly, a life of service incorporates _____ God’s Word by sharing it with others (5:27).
 - D. Fourthly, this life of service implies a _____ of the grace of God (5:28).

3.

CONCLUSION: Some important thoughts:

1. **In the Word of God, we have all the _____ we need; therefore we need to read and study it.**
2. **In the Holy Spirit, we have all the _____ we need; therefore, we need to rely on Him so we can effectively obey the Word of God.**
3. **In God's family (the local church), we have all the _____ we need to grow in every aspect of life, therefore we need to support it with our faithful attendance, prayers, and offerings as it reaches out to a world in need of the Good News!**