

Specific Questions: Text: 1Thessalonians 4:9-12

1. Describe a relationship that you feel reflects the biblical concept of “brotherly love.”
2. If brotherly love seems lacking between believers, what steps or actions could you take to cultivate it?
3. Does it surprise you that the church of Thessalonica was showing brotherly love to believers (v10) throughout Macedonia (roughly half the area of Minnesota)? How does that help you assess your love for the brethren?
4. Paul challenges the Thessalonians to excel, even in areas he says they are doing well. How do you respond when you hear that exhortation personally?
5. How does the church help believers who lack self-discipline, motivation, or skills to be self-supporting? Have you ever been faced with a challenge like that?
6. In addition to our text, read Acts 5:32-35, 44-45; Rom 12:10-13; 2Cor 8:11-15; Eph 4:28; Titus 3:12-14; James 2:14-17, 3:17-18; 2Thess 3:10. Formulate a personal philosophy of ministry that explains your response to those in material need.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

1. What new concept did you learn from this week’s text?
2. Is there anything in the text that you don’t understand?
3. How does this text challenge you to change? Is there anything standing in your way of making that change?