CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

COMMANDMENTS FOR CHRISTIANS 1 Thess 5:11-28

SCRIPTURE READING:

"11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. 12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. 14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. 15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. 16 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 19 Quench not the Spirit. 20 Despise not prophesyings. 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil. 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. 25 Brethren, pray for us. 26 Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss. 27 I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren. 28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen" (1 Thess 5:11-28).

INTRODUCTION:

- A. A Commandment is a divinely authoritative command or order given to Believers by God in His Word. It is not a suggestion but an order that must be obeyed at all times, at any cost and regardless of the situation or circumstance.
- B. As Believers, we must obey all the Commandments or orders given to us by our Savior Christ Jesus.
 - o "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15).
 - o "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:14).
- C. Trust and Obey, for there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus, but to Trust and Obey.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11-28 contains twenty-two (22) commandments for Christians. We will review each of these commandments as follows:
- 1. "Comfort Yourselves Together" (v. 11) Encourage and admonish one another.
- **2.** "Edify One Another" (v. 11) Strengthen and Build up one another with the Word of God and with loving care.
- 3. "Know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you" (v. 12) Do not disrespect those in church leadership Show Respect to them.

- **4.** "Esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake" (v. 13) Appreciate people, love God, His Word, and others.
- **5.** "And be at peace among yourselves" (v. 13) Believers and Church Leaders are to be at peace among themselves. They are not to criticize, murmur, envy or oppose each other. Leaders and Believers must love one another.
- **6.** "Warn them that are unruly" (v. 14) "unruly" means those who are out of line, inappropriate behavior. The unruly must be warned and admonished. God will not tolerate unruly behavior from His children.
- 7. "Comfort the feebleminded" (v. 14) Comfort the fainthearted, those fearful to go out for God. Those who hesitate to serve or witness. A person who fails to live for Christ because of being reserved or faint-hearted. Believers, who are strong in the Lord, are to comfort and encourage the feebleminded.
- **8.** "Support the weak" (v. 14) Support those that are weak in the faith. Believers must cling to and hold on to them that are weak in the faith. They need the support of strong Believers.
- **9.** "Be patient toward all men" (v. 14) Do not lose your temper with others. Exhibit an attitude of long-suffering when others tend to irritate or provoke you.
- **10. "See that none render evil for evil unto any man"** (v. 15) Do not retaliate against anyone show love and remember, we are responsible for each other and responsible for how we respond to evil.
- **11.** "But ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men" (v. 15) Always seek to do good to everyone.
- **12. "Rejoice evermore"** (v. 16) God is so good to us all the time. Therefore, we are to Rejoice in His Goodness all the time.
- **13. "Pray without ceasing"** (v. 17) Believers are to be in constant communication with God. We are to take our concerns, worries, anxieties and problems to God in prayer. Have an attitude of prayer.
- 14. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (v. 18) Regardless of how our circumstances may be going, give thanks to God in all things. God is always at work for the good of those that love Him (Rom 8:28).
- **15. "Quench not the Spirit"** (v. 19) Do not stifle or stop the Holy Spirit by neglecting, disobeying, or ignoring Him. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you to do His will.
- **16. "Despise not Prophesying"** (v. 20) prophesying means to speak on behalf of God, to preach, to deliver a message from God. Despise means to not look down, reject or ignore the true Word of God, It is the mind of God as revealed in the Bible.

- **17. "Prove all Things"** (v. 21) test all things so that you are not mis-lead. Measure what you hear or read by the Scriptures (Word of God).
- **18.** "Hold fast that which is God" (v. 21) Cling to or Hold on to that which is True and Accurate The Word of God will never fail.
- **19. "Abstain from all appearance of evil"** (v. 21) Even if something appears or borders on evil, get away from it. "We should abstain from sin, and whatever looks like sin, leads to it, and borders upon it. He who is not shy of the appearances of sin, who shuns not the occasions of it, and who avoids not the temptations and approaches to it, will not long keep from doing sin" (Matthew Henry Concise Commentary).
- **20.** "Brethren, pray for us" (v. 25) pray for one another those laboring for God. Pray that God will open doors for them to share the Gospel.
- **21.** "Greet all the brethren will a holy kiss" (v. 26) a "holy kiss" was a common practice for greeting one another in the early church. Today, a handshake will do.
- **22.** "This epistle be read unto all the holy brethren" (v. 27) Share the Word of God. Be sure that every Believer studies letter as well of the rest of the Bible.

MEMORY VERSE:

"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous" (1 John 5:3).

CONCLUSION:

A. Obey the Commandments of this lesson as you live out your Christian life – It is pleasing unto God.

B. Trust and Obey

When we walk with the Lord, In the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way; While we do His good will, He abides with us still, And with all who will trust and obey. Trust and obey, For there's no other way, To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

C. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).