



# I THESSALONIANS

a future for now

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 – What Is God’s Will For Life In The Church?

### Part 2

May 26, 2024

## What is God’s will for my life in the church?

### 1. Rejoice Always.

Rejoice always, 1 Thessalonians 5:16 (ESV)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Philippians 4:4 (ESV)

#### A. Rejoice when suffering for Jesus.

But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 1 Peter 4:13 (ESV)

*Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. Luke 6:22–23 (ESV)*

#### B. Rejoice in trials.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, James 1:2 (ESV)

#### C. Our joy comes from God, not our circumstances.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,... Galatians 5:22 (ESV)*

#### D. How can we always have joy in a tough world?

*On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their homes, joyful and glad of heart for the prosperity that the LORD had granted to David and to Solomon and to Israel his people. 2 Chronicles 7:10 (ESV)*

*Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven. Luke 10:20 (ESV)*

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28 (ESV)

I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil. Psalm 119:162 (ESV)

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart... Jeremiah 15:16 (ESV)

## 2. **Pray Unceasingly.**

pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (ESV)

### A. **God promises to answer our prayers.**

I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Luke 11:8–10 (ESV)

### B. **For Jesus, miracles were easy. Prayer was work.**

And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. Luke 22:44 (ESV)

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Hebrews 5:7 (ESV)

### C. **We are to pray for one another.**

praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. James 5:16 (ESV)

### D. **What motivates us to pray?**

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1 (ESV)

Give us this day our daily bread, Matthew 6:11 (ESV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. James 1:5 (ESV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7 (ESV)

### 3. Give Thanks In Everything.

...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Romans 1:21 (ESV)

#### A. We should give thanks even when life is falling apart.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.  
Romans 8:28 (ESV)

#### B. Instead of cursing, we should speak thankful words.

Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. Ephesians 5:4 (ESV)

#### C. We should thank God all the time for everything.

giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Ephesians 5:20 (ESV)

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.  
Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

### 4. Do Not Quench The Spirit.

Do not quench the Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (ESV)

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Acts 7:51 (ESV)

#### A. We grieve the Holy Spirit by church conflict.

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one

another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:30–32 (ESV)

## **B. We grieve the Holy Spirit by relying on psychology instead of the Holy Spirit.**

*Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Galatians 3:3 (ESV)*

## **C. We grieve the Holy Spirit by relying on our own strength.**

*Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.*  
Zechariah 4:6 (ESV)

## **5. Do Not Despise Prophecy.**

*Do not despise prophecies, 1 Thessalonians 5:20 (ESV)*

**Prophecy** — It is a broad term. It refers to the taught word of God or a fresh word from God. It can refer to the spoken word or written word.

*Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; Romans 12:6 (ESV)*

*And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words. Acts 15:32 (ESV)*

*Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. 1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV)*

*I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food.*  
Job 23:12 (ESV)

## **6. Test Everything.**

*but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:21–22 (ESV)

**Guard your heart.** Only a fool would let anyone in their house. Only a fool would let anything and everyone in their life.

## **Benediction**

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. Brothers, pray for us. Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. 1 Thessalonians 5:23–28 (ESV)*