

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for February 8-9, 1997

"Responsible Living within the Church"

Dale Whitehead

1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

Responsibilities regarding leaders (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

Responsibilities of leaders to congregation

To labor (KOPIAO) means to work to the point of weariness (1 Thessalonians 2:7-9; Colosians 1:28,29).

To exercise authority (PROISTAMENOUS) means to "stand before". It is used in 1 Timothy 3:4,5,12 and 1 Timothy 5:17.

"In the Lord" - Church leaders are themselves under the authority of Christ and must reflect that authority both in manner and purpose (Matthew 20:25-28)

To teach (NOUTHETEO) means to "admonish" (Titus 1:9).

Responsibilities of congregation to leaders

To appreciate (EIDENAI) means to know

A lack of knowledge often leads people not to appreciate those who are in a position of oversight over them.

To esteem is defined by Webster's as to regard as valuable

"...very highly" (HUPEREKPERISSOU) means "abundantly out of all bounds beyond all measure "

"in love" (AGAPE) - Hopefully we would not be seeking to appreciate and highly esteem our leaders just because it is the right thing to do but because it is something that we want to do for the simple reason that we love them.

To live in peace with -

How can we live in peace with church leaders? We can do this by following them, supporting them, obeying them (Hebrews 13:17).