

Short Takes On Christianity

1 Thessalonians 5:16-28

Today, Paul gives us eight “Short Takes” that Teach us HOW we can Live as part of God’s Family...

We make these Changes NOT to BECOME a child of GOD but because WE ARE children of GOD.

How WE are to BEHAVE as part of God’s Family?

1. **LOVE OUR LEADERS** (vv.12-13)
 - They are SENT by the Lord.
 - They REMIND us of the truth.
 - They WORK SO hard among you.

2. **BE CONCERNED FOR EACH OTHER** (vv.14-15)
 - WARN those who don’t Show Up for work.
 - COMFORT those who feels Inadequate & Ungifted.
 - HELP those struggling in their faith.

3. **BE JOYFUL ALWAYS** (v.16)
 - JOY is something greater, stronger, & deeper *than Material things*.
 - What you **DON’T** have is MUCH LESS than what you **DO** have.

4. **PRAY ALL THE TIME** (v.17)
 - Only a loving Father would want us to pray about EVERYTHING.
 - Without Prayer, you **DON’T** have a Relationship with God.

5. **GIVE THANKS IN EVERYTHING** (v.18)
 - God always wants us to See the *Positive* & GIVE THANKS.
 - No matter What Situation you’re in, Give Thanks to God.

6. **LET GOD’S FIRE BURN WITHIN YOU** (vv.19-20)
 - We need to **stay FIRED UP!** (Romans 12:11)
 - Prophesying is revealing the Mind of God through the Word of God.

7. **TEST EVERYTHING** (vv.21-22)
 - TEST what is said. (Acts 17:11)
 - The Word of God always cause us to change our direction.

8. **BE SANCTIFIED COMPLETELY** (vv.23-28)
 - If you **Choose to obey**, God will give you the power to perform.
 - God will **NOT force change**...you’ve got to want to change.
 - **HOW LONG** are we to live this way? (v.23)
 - **TRUST CHRIST ALONE.**