



9/6/15 Small Group Questions

1. Read I Thessalonians 5:12,13. What two groups in the church are mentioned? What three qualities should be present in a church's teaching leaders?
2. Paul uses the term "brothers" in vs.12 AND vs.14 clearly indicating that he is talking to the same group. He then instructs those "brothers" in pastoral labor. Whom then is responsible for pastoral work in the church?
3. Read verse 14. Why do you think Paul encouraged the church to be patient with the idle, the timid, and the weak?
4. Read vs.16-22. These verbs in these verses are plural suggesting a context in which the church is gathered, a worship service. When Paul says "Rejoice always", what is he saying about the way we worship? Not only is praise an indispensable element of worship, so is prayer. Why?
Read Psalm 103:2 - How is this tied in with "Give thanks in all circumstances"? What is it Christians have to be thankful for? Rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks is called what in vs.18b? If this is God's will, should we not collectively be about this in our worship services? Notice that we are asked if we "feel" like doing these things. Why not?
5. Read vs.19. How can we quench the Spirit? This prohibition sits in the middle of the exhortations, therefore it could apply to what precedes or what follows. Respond to the following statements. "Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through his word and listen to his voice; do not quench him." "Let the Holy Spirit move you to respond to the word in praise, prayer, and gratitude; do not quench him."