

## Thankful for Ebenezer BFC

**Text:** 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

**Theme:** As we strive to be a holy and blameless church for our Lord's coming, I am deeply thankful for the leadership and the congregation, but let us always strive for more of the will of God until that Day!

- I. I am thankful for the \_\_\_\_\_ at Ebenezer and a congregation that submits to them (vs. 12-13).
  - Be thankful for godly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Be thankful for Ebenezer's pastors and elders because they \_\_\_\_\_ for you!
  - Three ways you can demonstrate thankfulness to them:
    - \_\_\_\_\_ and appreciate them
    - \_\_\_\_\_ highly of them (...esteem them...)
    - \_\_\_\_\_ to them (Be at peace among yourselves)
- II. I am thankful for the increased care of souls from within the body at Ebenezer BFC (vs. 14-15).
  - Not only are the leaders to care for the congregation, \_\_\_\_\_ are to be involved in ministry to one another.
  - I am thankful to see more of the spiritually strong come patiently \_\_\_\_\_ the spiritually wayward and the spiritually struggling (vs. 14).
  - We are to \_\_\_\_\_ as Jesus responded to evil, both to those inside the church and those outside the church (vs. 15).
- III. I thank God that Ebenezer is a healthy church, but always strive for more of the will of God (vs. 16-18).
  - Be a people who grow in "The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord" ("Rejoice Always")
  - Be a people who want more constant \_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord (...pray without ceasing...")
  - Be a people who grow in \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord no matter what life throws at you (give thanks in all circumstances...")
  - 2 Ways to Grow in joy, desire more prayer, and be more thankful:
    - Reflect on what you \_\_\_\_\_
    - Rejoice in what you don't deserve but \_\_\_\_\_!

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