

MSWSBA Messenger

July 2016

As we continue to go through our summer I am continually amazed at how busy we all seem to find ourselves. It causes me to stop and ponder on why we do some of the things that we do. I often fear that we tend to confuse being busy with being productive. I fear that far too often, with good intentions, we spend far too much time doing “busy-work” and far too little time doing kingdom-work. We do the busy-work because that is what has been mapped out for us, it’s what we can see, and it’s what has always been done in the past, so we must keep up. How often do we really stop first and consider what God really wants us to do? Is there anywhere in the Bible that just tells us this is God’s will so just do that? (I thought you’d never ask!) YES! There is! In 1 Thessalonians 4, Paul was writing to some spiritually distraught Christians who had been left under-disciplined and thought they had missed the return of Christ and thereby must have done something wrong. Paul then, takes a comforting tone and writes to them to correct them on this issue and tells them what it is that God wills for His people.

Gods Will For You Is To Grow In Holiness (v. 1-8)

In verses 1 and 2, Paul tells them that they were to grow in the instructions that they received before on living for God when Paul, Silas, and Timothy had been with them and no doubt when Timothy had returned to them for a while. They were to grow in holiness. Paul then makes the climax statement for this passage in v.3, “For this is the will of God, your sanctification...” Paul then gets very specific with them and talks about their former sexual sin, which was a major visual representation of living according to the culture around them. The idea here is that the will of God is for you to be sanctified, which means that your former sins become less and less as you become more and more holy. So how does this help us with our busy schedule? Maybe we should start asking ourselves: “Is this going to best enable me to live a holy life, or is there something else that I should be doing to help me become more holy?” The next verses serve to further guide us in this.

Gods Will For You Is To Grow In Love (v. 9-12)

Notice that Paul says of brotherly love here that nobody needs to write them about this. Why is that? Because love is one of the main distinguishing signs of a Christian. 1 John 5:1 says, “*Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him.*” These people were a new creation and one of the most distinguishing factors of the new life is love. It's the same with you if you have been redeemed. Notice that Paul doesn't just leave it at that, however. Rather than explaining why they should love, he says in verse 10, “but we urge you brothers, to do this more and more.” Although they love others, there was still a lot of growth that needed to take place in the way they loved others. Not only are we to grow in our holiness, but if we are going to be doing God's will then we need to be growing in our love for others. So here's another factor in the decision-making process: Not only are we to ask what will make me more able to live a holy life, but another major factor comes into play. What will help me to be more godly in the way I love others?

What will best enable me to become more holy and what will best help me to love others in Christ that they too may become more holy? These are questions that

we should consider with LOTS OF PRAYER! Perhaps this will help us to get out of too much “busy-work” and find ourselves satisfied and fulfilled in more kingdom-work.

Chris Kuenzle- Director of Missions

How to Contact your DOM

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Email:

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Office Hours:

@ FBC Ewing 9:00am- 1:00pm



Pray For Your Pastor!

“Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.”
Ephesians 6:19

Remember to Pray for our churches seeking a Pastor

- Wyaconda Baptist Church
- South Wyaconda Baptist Church
- FBC LaGrange

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, JULY 12

Hymn Sing

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

FBC Hurdland

Thursday, July 14

Project Dignity Sewing

6:30pm

Mt. Olivet Baptist Church

Thursday, July 21

Trustee's Mtg

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

FBC Ewing

Exec. Board Mtg

7:00 PM

FBC Ewing

Thursday, July 28

WMU Quarterly Meeting

9:30am-2:00pm

Durham Baptist Church

Tuesday, August 2

6:00pm Missions Meeting

7:00pm Camp Meeting

Ten Mile Baptist Church

Thursday, August 4

Girlfriends Café

6:30pm-8:00pm

FBC Labelle