

**BRIDE****HUMBLY RESILIENT**

1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 28

Pastor Daniel Hahn

November 16/17, 2019

**MESSAGE NOTES**

The bride is:

- Spiritually responsive,
- Sacrificially motivated.
- Faithful under pressure.
- Exemplary in character.
- Inspired by hope.
- Relationally supportive.

What sort of qualities make up our spiritual inventory?

**1. Joyful**

*Many, Lord, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?" Let the light of Your face shine on us. Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound. In peace I will lie down and sleep, for You alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.*

— Psalm 4:6 – 8

**2. Prayerful**

*Prayer is a moment of incarnation — God with us. God involved in the details of my life. ... Self-will and prayer are both ways of getting things done. At the center of self-will is me, carving a world in my image, but at the center of prayer is God, carving me in His Son's image. — Paul E. Miller, A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World*

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. — Ephesians 6:18*

*In the morning, Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait expectantly. — Psalm 5:3*

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. — Colossians 4:2*

**3. Grateful**

*Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. — Acts 2:46 – 47*

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

— Philippians 4:4 – 7

**4. Wisely discerning**

1. Is it consistent with the truth of Scripture?
2. Have I given it plenty of time in prayer and meditation?
3. Is there consensus among other Godly individuals?

**5. Genuinely God honoring**

*The local church should be much more than a weekly event on the calendars of its members. The church should be an island of Kingdom Culture where among the lives of its members, heaven touches earth. It is the place where people get a foretaste of the environment and practices of Heaven. ... This is not something they attend once a week but a living reality that inundates every part of their lives. — John Mark Pfeifer, Pastor of Open Door Church in Ohio*

**6. Spiritually expectant****7. Other centered**

*It is a bad world, Donatus, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered in the midst of it a quiet and good people who have learned the great secret of life. They have found a joy and wisdom which is a thousand times better than any of the pleasures of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They are masters of their souls. They have overcome the world. These people, Donatus, are Christians, and I am one of them. — Cyprian of Carthage (c. 210–258 AD), Ad Donatum*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Is there one thing you recall thinking about from the message this past weekend?
- Read over our passage in 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 28.
- Paul ends his letter with a series of simple phrases. When has just a simple word or phrase impacted you deeply?
- How can we rejoice always even when things aren't going well or according to plan?
- How do we pray continuously? What does he mean by that?
- How might it be possible to be thankful in all circumstances without being thankful for all circumstances? In other words, Paul is probably not telling us to be thankful for wars and famines and so forth. What's this passage mean?
- In what way is the idea of putting out the Spirit's fire a direct opposite of being filled with the Spirit?
- Clearly the Spirit of God works through people of God to remind us of the Word of God. Can you think of an example in your own life when this has happened?
- Why is discernment so crucial and how can we discern whether something is true and from the Lord or just someone's own opinion?
- Looking at v. 23, how is it possible to be blameless even when we are not sinless?
- Why is greeting each other a crucial part of what we do in the church? What difference does a warm and hospitable greeting make?
- What is one aspect of our study in 1 Thessalonians that has impacted you personally?