

**"LIVING IN THE WORLD – AIMING FOR HEAVEN"
(The Practical Life)
Pastor Mike Weiser
Greater Hope Community Church
March 10, 2019**

→ THE BIBLE IS A VERY PRACTICAL BOOK.

-In 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22, the Apostle Paul lays out nine practical things for Christians to do as they wait for Heaven.

(1) HONOR YOUR _____.

Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance.¹³ Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work. And live peacefully with each other. (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 NLT)

(2) _____ CARE FOR OTHERS.

Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone. (1 Thessalonians 5:14 NLT)

(3) DO GOOD TO _____.

See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people. (1 Thessalonians 5:15 NLT)

(4) ALWAYS BE _____.

Always be joyful. (1 Thessalonians 5:16 NLT)

**We can ALWAYS BE JOYFUL not because _____ is
always great but because _____ is.**

(5) NEVER STOP _____.

Never stop praying. (1 Thessalonians 5:17 NLT)

(6) BE THANKFUL _____.

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18 NLT)

(7) LIVE _____.

Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 5:19 NLT)

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO STIFLE THE HOLY SPIRIT:
Two main ones are:

1. Doing what God _____ us to do;
2. Not doing what God _____ to do.

(8) PRACTICE _____.

Do not scoff at prophecies,²¹ but test everything that is said. (1 Thessalonians 5:20-21a NLT)

(9) DO _____ AND AVOID _____.

Hold on to what is good.²² Stay away from every kind of evil. (1 Thessalonians 5:21b-22 NLT)

Paul's Final Greetings

²³ Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. ²⁴ God will make this happen, for he who calls you is faithful.

²⁵ Dear brothers and sisters, pray for us.

²⁶ Greet all the brothers and sisters with a sacred kiss.

²⁷ I command you in the name of the Lord to read this letter to all the brothers and sisters.

²⁸ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-28 NLT)

NEXT STEP:

- COMMIT TO READING AND LIVING BY GOD'S WORD UNTIL HE CALLS YOU HOME TO HEAVEN.**