THE READY CHURCH:
A PREPARED CHURCH

JUNE 17, 2018
1 Thessalonians 5:12-16 (NIV) (12) Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. (13) Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. (14) And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. (15) Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. (16) Be joyful always;
1 Thessalonians 5:17-22 (NIV)(17) pray continually; (18) give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (19) Do not put out the Spirit's fire; (20) do not treat prophecies with contempt. (21) Test everything. Hold on to the good. (22) Avoid every kind of evil.
1 Thessalonians 5:23-28 (NIV)

(23) May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (24) The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. (25) Brothers, pray for us. (26) Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. (27) I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. (28) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
Paul Ends His Letter With A “To Do” List In Order To Be The True “Ready” Church That We Desire To Be

These Are Valuable Actions Steps Of Getting In Line With God – So That We Are Ready For His Future
THE READY CHURCH:  
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GET IN LINE WITH GODLY LEADERSHIP IN YOUR LIFE

- (1 Thess. 5:12-13 NIV) Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. (13) Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

- God Uses Authority In Our Lives

- Authority Can Lead -- Guide -- Protect Us
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GET IN LINE WITH YOUR GODLY FAMILY

- (1 Thess. 5:13b-16 NIV) Live in peace with each other. (14) And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. (15) Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. (16) Be joyful always;

- Get In Line With Your Godly Family – Your Church Family

- Get In Line With Your Brothers And Sisters In Christ

- (John 15:13 NIV) Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.
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GET IN LINE WITH WHAT GOD IS DOING & SAYING

- (1 Thess. 5:17-22 NIV)  
  (17) pray continually; (18) give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (19) Do not put out the Spirit's fire; (20) do not treat prophecies with contempt. (21) Test everything. Hold on to the good. (22) Avoid every kind of

- To Get In Line With God’s Voice We Must Hear & Heed It
- God Wants You To Know His Will. That Is The Blessing Of Being In Line With His Voice & Prompting
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A PREPARED CHURCH

DON’T PUT OUT THE SPIRIT’S FIRE

- Do Not Put Out -- Quench -- Smother -- The Spirit’s Fire
- God Has Given Us Giftings For The Church To Hear From Him, To Experience His Power, And To Be Ready For Their Declared Future.
- They Are His Gifts For Us Today
- They Spread His Fire And Power -- We Do Not Want To Extinguish That Flame!
- We Test Them And We Hold On To The Good
THE READY CHURCH:
A PREPARED CHURCH

GET IN LINE WITH CHRIST’S RETURN

- *(1 Thess. 5:23-27 NIV)* (23) May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (24) The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. (25) Brothers, pray for us. (26) Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. (27) I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

- **The Ready Church Is Expecting Christ – We Are Ready And Waiting For Him**

- **We Are Living With The Future In Mind**
THE READY CHURCH:
A PREPARED CHURCH

GET IN LINE WITH GOD’S GRACE

- (1 Thess. 5:28 NIV) (28) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

- How Can We Be A Ready Church?
  Only By The Grace Of God

- We Are Perfected & Made Right By Grace – God’s Unmerited Favor

- (Eph. 2:4-10): God’s Grace Has Done It All & Will Do It All
  Get In Line With His Grace!
The Ready Church Is Ready For God’s Declared Future

The “Ready” Church Is -- ALIVE -- ENGAGED -- ENERGIZED -- SHARING -- STEADFAST -- GOD PLEASING — EXPECTANT -- ENCOURAGED -- PREPARED

BOTTOM LINE: The Lord Is Coming Again!! We Need To Be Ready!!!!
This Is Our Blessed Hope -- This Is What We Look For -- And Look Forward To

(1 Thess. 5:9-11 NIV) (9) For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (10) He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. (11) Therefore Encourage One Another And Build Each Other Up, Just As In Fact You Are Doing.

We Can Be Encouraged & Can Encourage & Build Up One Another Because Everything Is Going To Change In An Instant When Christ Comes On The Clouds
Jesus Is Coming -- He Will Soon Call Us To Be With Him.

- Comfort One Another With These Words.
- Keep Talking About His Coming.
- Keep Looking For His Coming.

The Lord Is Coming Back Again -- We Need To Be Ready!!
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