

Daily Devotional, May 13, 2020

“A Quiet Life”, (1 Thessalonians 4:11, NKJV)

“that you may also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you” (1 Thessalonians 4:11)

The believers in the church of the Thessalonians were commended by Paul for their brotherly love and testimony, as evidenced by their orderly lives. We would do well as Christians to follow their example, just as they followed Christ’s example.

Let us *“also aspire to lead a quiet life.”* *“A quiet life”* is a life without drama, a life without perpetual crisis, a life without noise, a life without frantic activity, a life without sinful company, and a life lived before God. We find that life when we follow the divine exhortations, when we *“rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). The saint who meditates on God’s Word throughout the day finds his or her spirit quieted continually (Cf. Psalm 1:2-3).

“Mind your own business.” This is not to say that we have to completely ignore sin and evil around us. Nor does this give us an excuse not to give *“a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear”* (1 Peter 3:15). But minding our business does mean that we must not be busybodies and tattle-tales. If we think we detect a fault in another, let us be sure that we look in the mirror first. If we honestly do that, we’ll find sufficient flaws enough to forget the flaws of others. So many people do not mind their own business due to envy and jealousy of others.

“Work with your own hands.” Paul was a tent-maker and Jesus was a carpenter. And we cannot find better examples than these, both the human and the divine. Adam and Eve were created to work. I once was told that a work ethic was something that cannot be taught. But perhaps it can be spiritually acquired through conversion to and maturity in the Christian faith. It has become a cottage industry in America to find ways to make money without working, and our government has been encouraging this more and more. As unemployment and various other programs pay better and better in these times, help wanted signs remain in some area businesses. Christian, free loading is not appointed for you.

So *“lead a quiet life, mind your own business, and work with your own hands.”* And be a living, walking testimony to the Christian faith you profess.