

***Growing Stronger in Christ***

Walking the hard but steady path of spiritual maturity

1 Thessalonians

**Growing as a Brotherly-Love Church**

(1 Thessalonians 4:9-12)

*Belong to each other as family* (vs. 9-10)

* God brings about this change

God’s lesson on brotherly-love

* It counters our natural selfishness
* It requires patience
* It involves a family connection to grow and not an impersonal event to attend
* It broadens its scope in relationships

*Guard generous care in the church* (vs. 11-12)

* Do not abuse another’s generosity
* Be alert to corporate testimony

Questions to Ask on Guarding our Care for Others

* Do I repay what I borrow from a fellow believer?
* If a believer hires me, do I as a fellow believer give them excellent service?
* If I hire a believer for some job, do I try to cheat them out of money they are due?
* If a fellow believer helps me out in a time of need, do I attempt to remedy the situation so as not to develop a negative dependency upon them?
* Am I known in my office, workplace, neighborhood, or classroom as a constant complainer or nuisance?
* Do I as a believer rely on other believers in my profession to cover for me or lie for me when I do something wrong or poorly?

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