

*"And now I commend you to God
and to the word of His grace, which
is able to build you up and to give
you the inheritance among all those
who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)*

July 2, 2017

LET THE CHURCH, BE THE CHURCH **OBLIGATIONS IN RELATIONSHIPS**

I. INTRODUCTION

We don't like using the words "owe", "expect", "deserve" when talking about other brothers and sisters in Christ.

Cf: [Romans 13:8](#); [1 Peter 2:17](#); etc.

Hyperlinked means this will
take you to your online Bible.

II. TEXT [1 Corinthians 16:10-18](#) (ESV)

III. EXPLANATION

IV. HOW TO RESPOND TO "SUCH AS THESE".

1. Encourage/Help The Weak (vv10-11).

Timothy is coming to remind them of what a Christian lifestyle should look like. So "see that you put him at ease" is understood to mean "give him permission to be fearless; to be bold."

When a Christian is doing the Lord's work and shows some timidity, the Church ought to respond, not with criticism, but encouragement.

Contemporary Application:

2. Respect The Wise (v12).

Paul respected and asked the Corinthians to respect the wisdom of Apollos. He isn't coming right now; but he will in the future.

Contemporary Application: [James 3:13-18](#) gives us the characteristics of a wise person:

- a) They are humble
- b) They have passion to live pure and holy
- c) They treat others with consideration
- d) They promote peace not conflict.
- e) They are forgiving and compassionate
- f) They are the real thing – what you see is what you get.
- g) They are fair and not prejudiced or partial.

These people deserve respect.

3. Be Subject To The Devoted (vv15-16).

What a wonderful thing that a family gets involved in ministry and serves the Lord (and the Lord's people) faithfully. Paul calls the Church to "be subject" to people like that.

Contemporary Application:

"For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves."
(Luke 22:27, ESV)

4. Recognize Encouragers (vv17-18).

These were men that also "refresh[ed] the spirits" of Paul and the Corinthians. Paul says, "Give recognition to such people."

The Greek word carries with it the notion of putting at ease or to bring rest.

Cf: [Psalm 23:1-3](#)

Contemporary Application:

V. **APPLICATION**

Paul says encourage those who are doing God's work and are struggling; respect those who are wise; submit to those who serve selflessly; and imitate those that bring peace. That was good advice for Corinth and for us today.

How much better if we are those people who are found doing God's work, serving selflessly, promoting peace and acting in wisdom.

Pastor Jim MacLellan

Box 298, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0
780 724-4194 or jim@elkpointbaptistchurch.com
www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

