

# HOW ABUNDANT LIFE WORKS

## 1 Thessalonians

Abundant life is enabled and energized by the way we respond to three gifts.

### I. God's Will For You

#### 1. Be Joyful Always.

1 Thessalonians 5:16, "Rejoice evermore."

#### 2. Pray Continually.

1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing."

#### 3. Give Thanks In All Circumstances.

1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

### II. God's Word To You

#### 4. Do Not Quench The Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 5:19, "Quench not the Spirit."

The word "quench" was used of both light and fire.

Luke 3:16, "John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:"

#### 5. Do Not Treat Prophecies With Contempt.

1 Thessalonians 5:20, "Despise not prophesyings."

To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to (unshackle) the imagination by the beauty of God, to open up the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.

#### 6. Test Everything.

1 Thessalonians 5:21, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

#### 5 ways to test a message:

The Scripture Test

The Jesus Test

The Grace Test

The Character Test

The Edification Test

### III. God's Work In You

#### 7. Avoid Every Kind Of Evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:22, "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

**Sanctification is seen in three ways:**

Positional Sanctification

Practical Sanctification

Perfect Sanctification

Focus on 4 words: "He will do it."

**Make this week a 7-day experiment**

Thursday: Rejoice in God's presence in each place you go.

Friday: Pray the first two minutes.

Saturday: Give thanks for 3 new things.

Sunday: Follow the Spirit's prompting in one selflessly spontaneous way.

Monday: Read a little read chapter of the Bible.

Tuesday: Make a list of the 4 best things God's word has brought into your life.

Wednesday: Put the words "He Will Do It" where you can see them throughout the day.