

**PGCOC**

Prince George's  
Church of Christ



**2024**

# LESSON SERIES

Christian Basics  
Stirring It Up In '24

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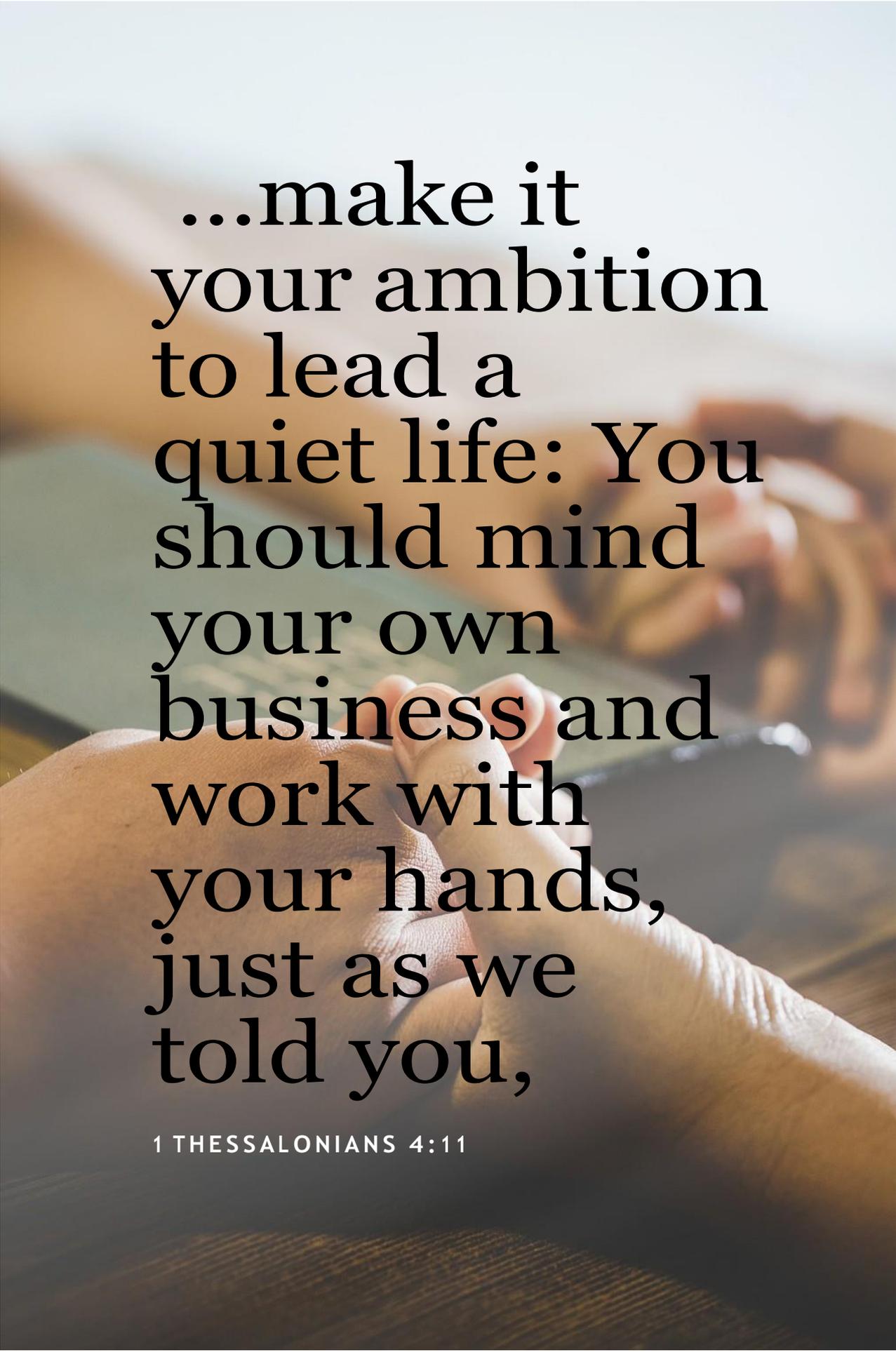
Presented By

The Prince George's Church of Christ  
Education Ministry



**...make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you**

**1 THESSALONIANS 4:11**



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# Word Search

R E S I L I E N C E P G S B Z W E T G E  
E T A R B E L E C I R L B P O C T I R C  
B Z T C E I J X H O M T I R I V A U A N  
L L J C V C T S U T O W S G M R T R T A  
L I A P G P W N O Z V H R D H E I F I R  
N E B P R O D U C T I V E T O T D T T E  
P E Y C L E I G A P J H L T H G E S U V  
Q L V L D I M B W T K M A P S I M H D E  
S D E A V X Y K U Z Y I T J A P N F E S  
M F N S E U L A V E N Z I O T T B K J R  
C W D R N H L N N S A O O Q G Y K V L E  
H Y O Z B Z W O P I K F N T A D J Q P P  
A V D R X V R I N P N U S X X M L O V E  
U K V K K G R T I H O D H U S R Z E U Y  
Y F V N U A U A C M W W I W O R K Z L D  
J A T N T U P V L T L A P W H M Y M V U  
P I R I L G B L R E E F S H Z C M E O J  
C P O P F V N A G O D N A I T S I R H C  
P N C O B N O S T N G K V A P U P A H N  
P W D A G W O R E D E M P T I O N X B K

- Love
- Pray
- Spirit
- God
- Light
- Salvation
- Redemption
- Work
- Meditate
- Relationships
- Fruit
- Knowledge
- Think
- Heaven
- End
- Fellowship
- Grounded
- Peace
- Inspiration
- Celebrate
- Resilience
- Productive
- Values
- Work
- Christian
- Gratitude
- Perseverance

## Christian Basics – “Stirring It Up”

In the text of **1 Thessalonians 4:11**, a somewhat unusual directive is given to Christians, that appear to be fundamental and simple to adhere to, provided one possess a foundational clarity regarding Christ and the Kingdom. The directive is simply to study how to be quiet and how to do one’s own business and to put in the personal work in learning to master such a task. In another scripture, **2 Timothy 2:15**, the directive is similar in that one must study to ascertain God’s approval as a craftsman who presents his product, knowing that it has been properly accessed and handled according to the developer’s plans without personal modifications.

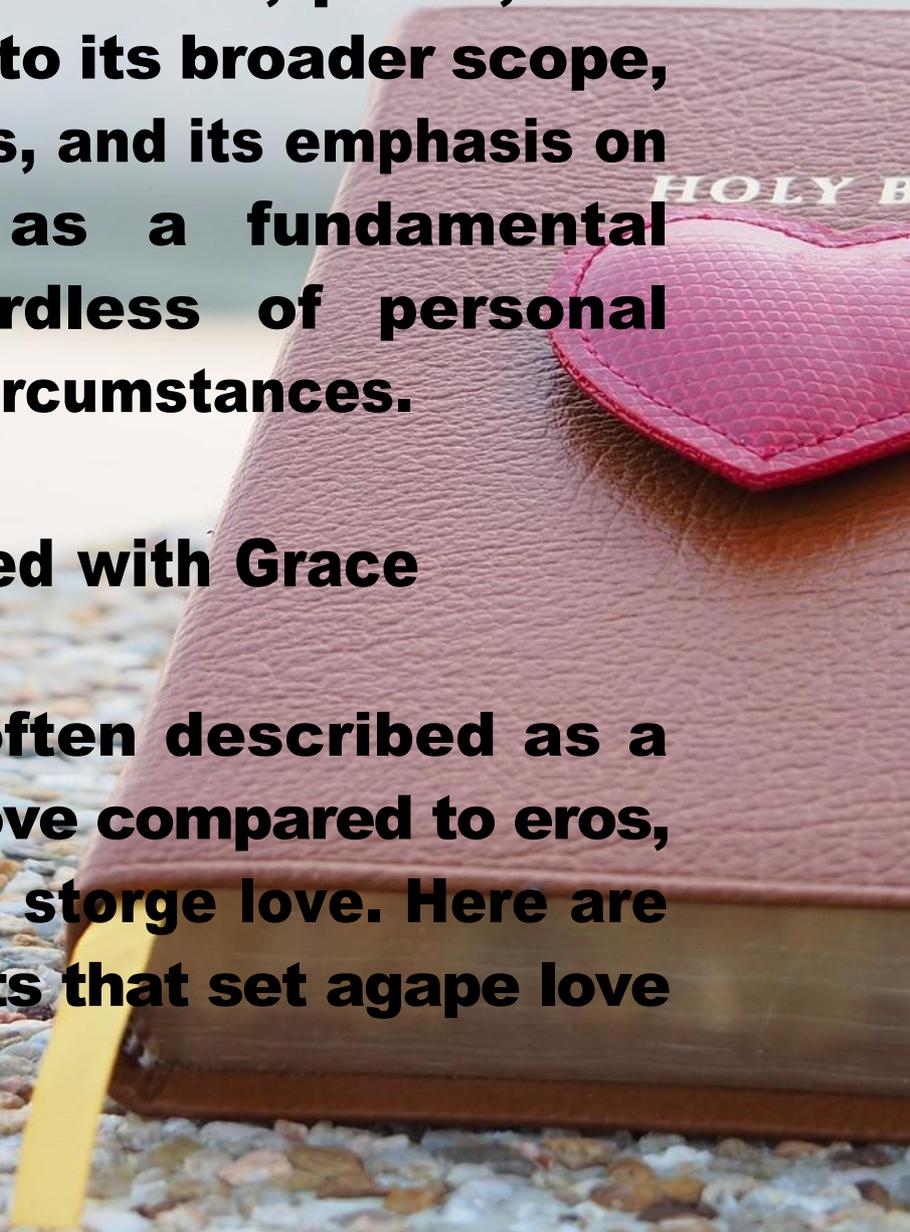
In **Psalms 35:23** the directive was very clearly stated: *Stir up in thyself the judgement of God based upon his cause and purpose.* As taught by the Apostle Peter in **2 Peter 3:1**, the intent is always to “*stir up*” minds that are pure by reminding them of things already known. It is more of a challenge working with people who have seared hearts, that can’t be reached to receive the “stirring up”. The message of **2 Timothy 1:6** involves the task of a “*review*” rather than an “*indoctrination introduction and hopeful conversion.*” The message states that putting one in a reflective state by stirring or stimulating triggers sets in motion what is already stored.

## **Week One through Week Four 4 Part Series – Agape Love**

**Agape love is unique in its selflessness, universality, and connection to spiritual and virtuous principles. It stands apart from eros, philia, and storge love due to its broader scope, lack of conditions, and its emphasis on loving others as a fundamental principle, regardless of personal connections or circumstances.**

### **Love That Is Filled with Grace**

**Agape love is often described as a unique form of love compared to eros, philia (philo), and storge love. Here are three key aspects that set agape love apart:**





### **1. Unconditional and Selfless Love:**

Agape love is characterized by its selfless and unconditional nature. It transcends personal gain, desire, or self-interest. While eros love is often associated with romantic or passionate love, philia love is typically a friendship or brotherly love, and storge love is familial love, agape love goes beyond these boundaries. It involves caring for and loving someone without expecting anything in return. Agape love is about genuinely desiring the well-being of others, even if it requires personal sacrifice.

### **2. Universal and Inclusive Love**

Agape love extends to all humanity, regardless of personal connections or relationships. Eros love is typically reserved for a romantic partner, philia love for friends, and storge love for family members. Agape love, however, embraces a broader spectrum of people, including strangers and even those considered enemies. It's a love that promotes empathy, compassion, and a sense of interconnectedness with all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds or circumstances.

### **3. Spiritual and Virtuous Love**

Agape love is often associated with moral and spiritual values. It's considered a virtuous form of love that aligns with concepts like charity, altruism, and goodwill. While eros love can be driven by physical attraction and desire, philia love is based on shared interests and camaraderie, and storge love is rooted in familiarity. By contrast, agape love transcends these aspects and is driven by a higher sense of purpose and morality.

## 4 Part Series – What Is True Love 1 Corinthians 13:4 – 7

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.



### Week One

- A. What Is Love?
- B. Longsuffering and Love

### Week Two

- A. Love without envy
- B. Love without pride

### Week Three

- A. Love without an agenda
- B. Love that is not easily shaken

### Week Four

- A. Love that doesn't celebrate evil
- B. Love that is optimistic

### Notes



## **Week Five through Week Eight Eschatology - The End of Times**

Eschatology, the study of the end times or the return of Christ is a significant theme in Galatians 4 and Revelation 19.

Eschatological themes in these passages emphasize hope, salvation, judgment, and the consummation of God's redemptive plan.

Eschatology is a branch of theology that deals with the study of end times or the final events in human history. It encompasses a wide range of beliefs, interpretations, and perspectives across different religious traditions. It's important to understand that eschatology is not a monolithic concept; rather, it varies significantly among different religious groups, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and others. Each tradition may have its own set of prophecies, symbols, and interpretations regarding the end of the world.





## **Eschatology and Theological Views**

1. **Interpretive Diversity:** Eschatological texts, whether found in religious scriptures or philosophical writings, are often highly symbolic and open to various interpretations. Different scholars and religious communities may interpret the same texts in divergent ways, leading to a rich tapestry of eschatological beliefs. Some may view end-time scenarios as literal, while others interpret them metaphorically or allegorically. Additionally, eschatological beliefs can evolve over time within a religious tradition, reflecting changes in societal, cultural, and theological contexts.

2. **Impact on Beliefs and Practices:** Eschatological beliefs can profoundly influence religious doctrines, ethical considerations, and individual behaviors. The anticipation of an impending end time can shape the way people live their lives, impacting moral choices, social interactions, and community engagement. Understanding eschatology involves recognizing its implications for believers' worldviews and the role it plays in shaping religious practices. Moreover, eschatological perspectives can influence how communities respond to crises, navigate societal challenges, and envision the future.



# The End of Time Events Eschatology

## **Week Five**

Galatians 4:21 – 26 Symbolism and  
Allegories in Revelation

## **Week Six**

2 Peter 3:11 – 14 A Look at God's  
Disposal Day

## **Week Seven**

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18  
Identifying Christ's Return

## **Week Eight**

Hebrews 4:12/Revelations 19:11-16  
The Sword of God: Word or Blade?



## **Week Nine through Week Fourteen Worship Is Celebration**

Since God is Spirit according to Jesus and 2 Corinthians 3, there are critical aspects individuals must constantly adhere to when worshipping. A major ingredient that sometimes is left out is “celebration”.

There are specific components that emphasize the importance of a spiritual, authentic, and heartfelt connection with God, recognizing His spiritual nature. They go beyond mere ritualistic acts and encourage a deeper, more meaningful relationship with the divine, which is consistent with the te

## **Specific Components for Worship and Celebration**

### **Spirituality and Reverence**

Recognizing God as a spiritual being, it's essential to approach worship and celebration with a deep sense of spirituality and reverence. This means acknowledging God's transcendence and holiness, which leads to a mindset of humility and awe. Worshipers should approach God with a sense of respect and devotion, focusing on the spiritual connection with the divine rather than merely ritualistic practices.

### **Sincerity and Authenticity**

Authenticity is a crucial element in worship and celebrating God. In the spiritual context, sincerity means coming before God with an open and honest heart. It involves genuine devotion and a desire to connect with God on a personal level. Jesus emphasized the importance of worshiping in spirit and truth (John 4:24), which implies that worship should be heartfelt and sincere, not just outwardly ritualistic.

## **Specific Components for Worship and Celebration**

### **Love and Gratitude**

A key aspect of worship and celebration in a spiritual context is expressing love and gratitude towards God. This includes acknowledging God's love for humanity and responding with love in return. Gratitude is a fundamental element in worship, as it reflects an understanding of God's blessings and grace. Expressing thankfulness and love is an integral part of spiritual worship and celebration.

### **Prayer and Meditation**

Prayer and meditation are essential components of worship and celebrating God in a spiritual context. Prayer allows individuals to communicate with God, sharing their thoughts, concerns, and desires, and seeking guidance or strength. Meditation involves quiet reflection and contemplation, allowing for a deeper connection with the divine. Both practices facilitate a spiritual communion with God, fostering a sense of closeness and understanding of the spiritual realm.



# Worship and Celebration

## Week Nine

John 2:1-12

Weddings and Worship

## Week Ten

John 4:43-50

Home Remedies

## Week Eleven

John 6:1-13

Food and Fellowship

## Week Twelve

John 11:55-57

Forsaking A Fellowship?

## Week Thirteen

John 12:1 – 9

Fellowship Costs

Somebody

## Week Fourteen

John 13:1-12

Fellowship and Washing Up

