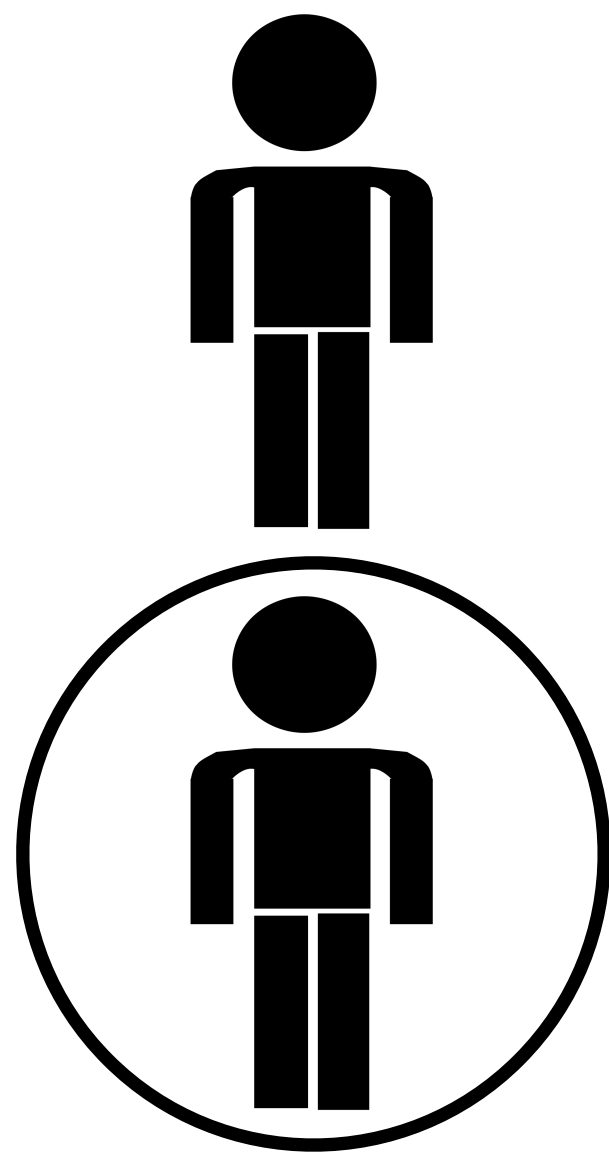
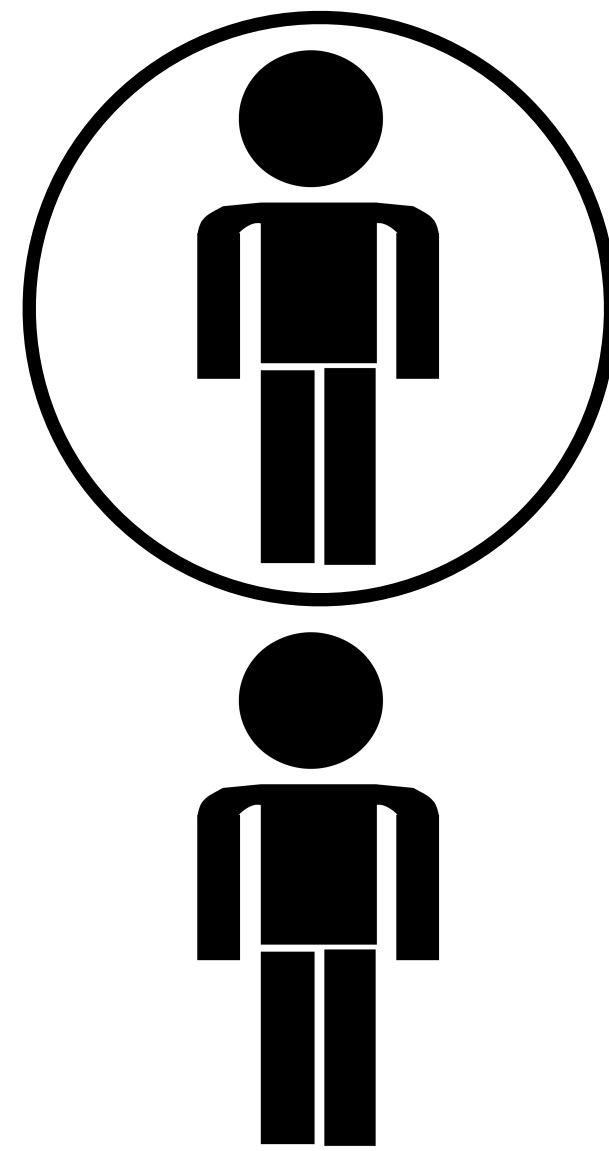


DESIGNED TO LEAD—Distinction versus Division

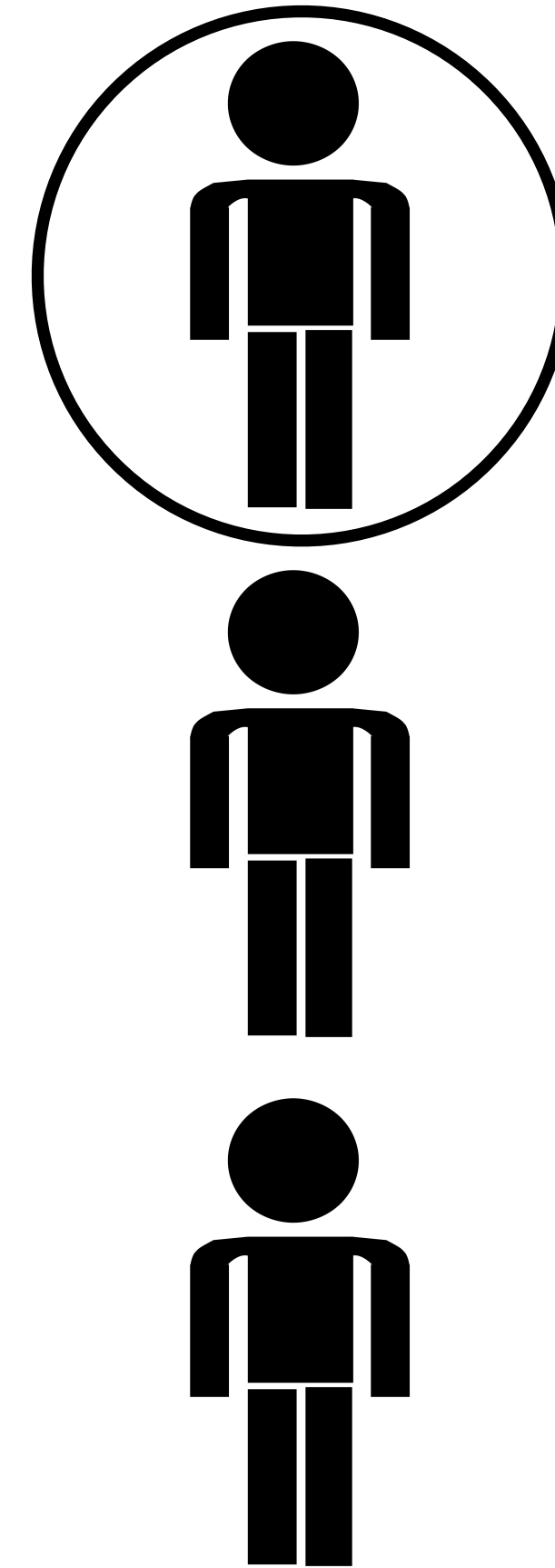
- All Christians are ministers, and all Christians will share in the inheritance (**kleros**). The word was never intended to help foster a group of super Christians who do the ministry.
- All of us are a “royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people (**laos**) for His possession” (1 Peter 2:9)... The gospel creates a new humanity, a group of believers who are one because of Christ’s atoning sacrifice for us (Galatians 3:25-27).
- While there is no division between God’s sons & daughters, there is distinction... Pastors are not more holy, more loved, or in better standing with God.... **The Lord has given them to His Church so they may equip & prepare God’s people for ministry.**



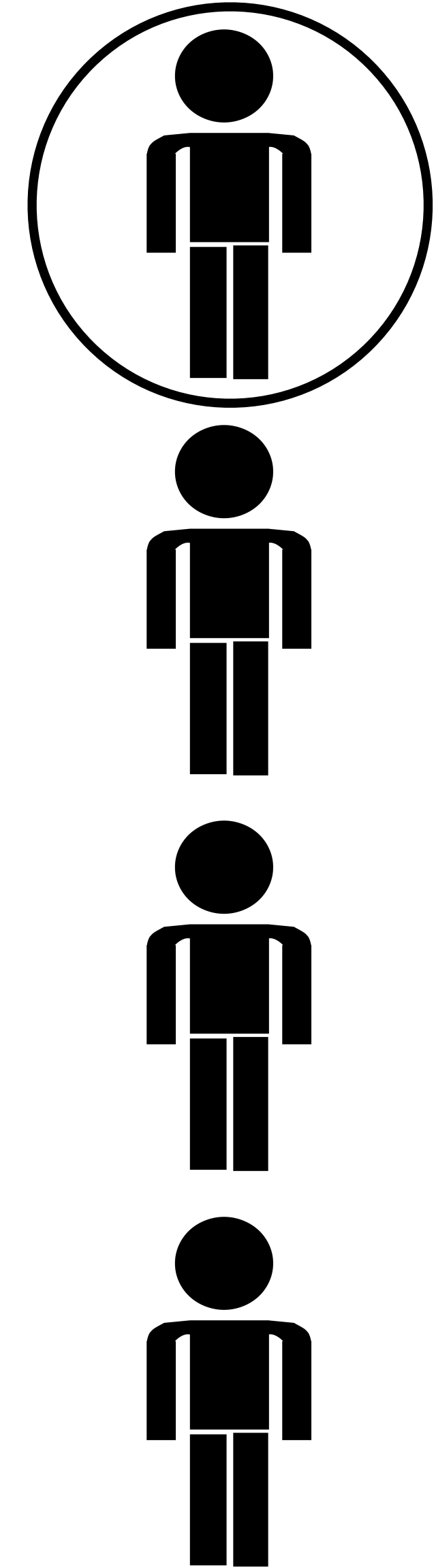
Learner



Leader



Disciplemaker



Multiplier

Give

Thanks

1 Thes. 5:12-22



Hope & The Coming King

Encourage and Build Up

Give Thanks

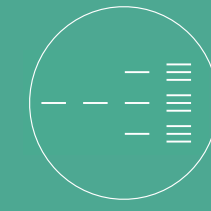
Character Among Brethren Beloved By God (1 Thes. 5:12-22)

Posture Toward Leadership (12-13)

Posture Toward Each Other (14-15)

Posture Toward God (16-22)

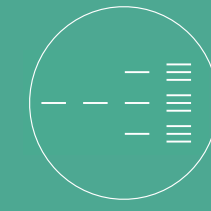
Encourage and Build Up



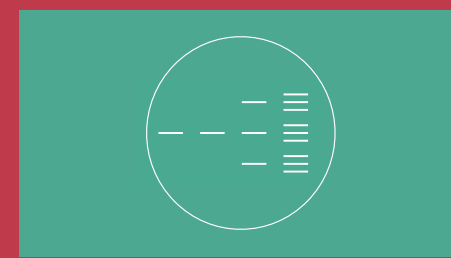
1 Thessalonians 5:1 Now as to the times and the epochs, **brethren**, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

2 For you yourselves know full well that **the day of the Lord** will come just like a thief in the night. 3 While they are saying, **“Peace and safety!”** then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. 4 But you, **brethren**, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; 5 for you are all **sons of light** and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

Encourage and Build Up

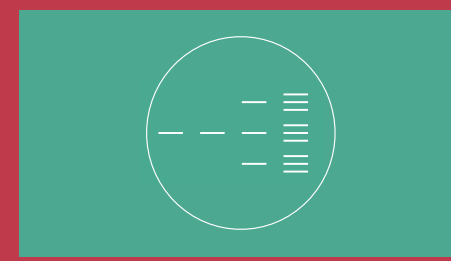


1 Thessalonians 5:6 so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be **alert** and **sober**. 7 For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we are of the day, let us be **sober**, having put on the breastplate of **faith** and **love**, and as a helmet, the **hope** of salvation. 9 For **God has** not **destined us** for wrath, but **for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ**, 10 who **died for us**, so that whether we are awake or asleep, **we will live together with Him**. 11 Therefore **encourage one another and build up one another**, just as you also are doing.



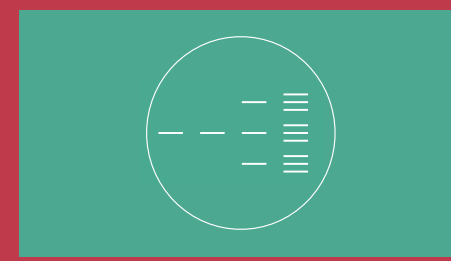
1 Thessalonians 5:12 But we request of you, **brethren**, that you **appreciate those who diligently labor among you, & have charge over you** in the Lord and **give you instruction**, 13 and that you **esteem them** very highly in **love** because of their work. **Live in peace with one another.**

- Brethren are brothers & sisters in the family of God (disciples).
- Appreciation & love are fitting for responsible leaders.
- 1 Peter 5:1-4 speaks of oversight, charge & example while Canoeing the Mtns.... (love) (clarity) (embody)
- Work hard to maintain positive, healthy relationships.



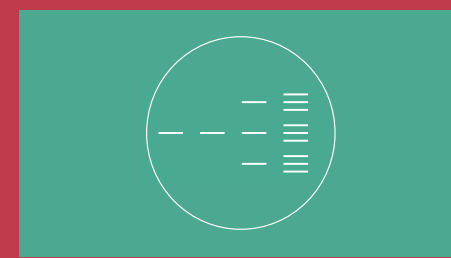
1 Thes. 5:14 We urge you, **brethren**, **admonish** the unruly, **encourage** the fainthearted, **help** the weak, **be patient** with everyone. 15 See that **no** one repays another with **evil for evil**, but **always seek after that which is good** for **one another** and for **all people**.

- There is urgency in admonishing, encouraging, helping and being patient.
- There is no place for evil...there is always a place for good.
- There is no place for revenge...there is a place for kindness.
- Our interactions with one another are to look different from the world...our interactions speak loud to outsiders.



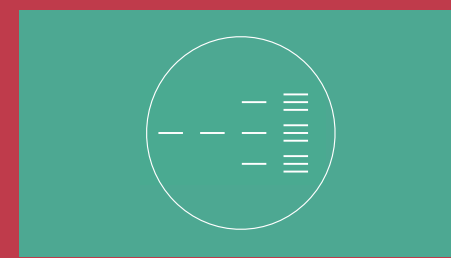
1 Thessalonians 5:16 **Rejoice** always; 17 **pray** without ceasing; 18 in everything **give thanks**; for this is **God's will** for you **in Christ Jesus**.

- Rejoicing, praying & giving thanks are ways we can express what we really believe...affirming our faith/TRUST in God.
- Paul does not say to give thanks “for” all circumstances but to give thanks “in” all circumstances.
- “God’s will” points to His expectations & gracious guidance.
- “In Christ Jesus” points to “made possible by grace.”



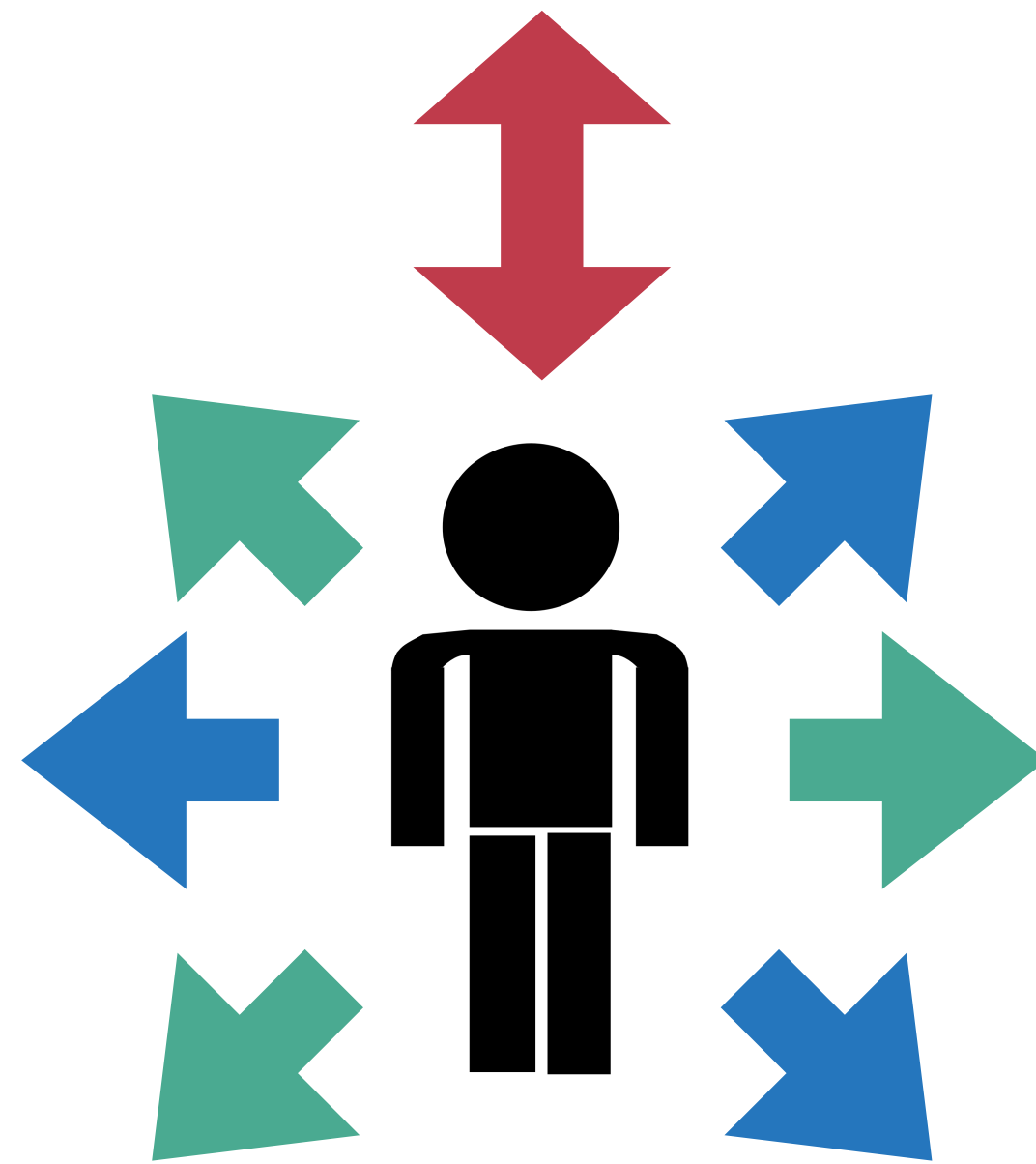
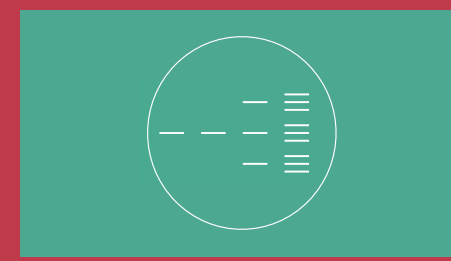
1 Thessalonians 5:19 Do not quench **the Spirit**; 20 do not despise **prophetic** utterances. 21 But **examine** everything carefully; **hold fast to that which is good**; 22 **abstain from every form of evil.**

- CCBC Mission Statement: **A Body of Believers**, intentionally, **Following The Holy Spirit** & **Proclaiming Christ to All People.**
- To land on prophetic utterances in our day...put a finger on the text. (Aligned with The Word & Build Up the Body)
- Abide in the Word & Apply the Word to Life...
- The resurrected Jesus restores us to new life for God's glory and God's purposes so we can abstain from evil.



Questions for reflection from Michael Holmes...

1. Do you truly believe that God's salvation is of more value than the cost of persecution that comes as a result of accepting the gospel?
2. Are we really persuaded that God will indeed deliver his people and bring justice on their behalf?
3. Are we genuinely convinced that "in all things God works for the good of those who love Him" (Rom. 8:28)?



Inside Out Life

Admonish
Encourage
Help
Be Patient
Rejoice
Pray
Give Thanks
Hold Fast