Living Out the Gospel
1 Thessalonians 5:14-22

Main Point:
By the power of Christ, live out the gospel in your life.

1. The gospel is to be lived out in your relationships.

James Grant, Jr. "This section is not just a lot of dos and don'ts, but this section is gospel life, the way brothers and sisters should live together in the church because they have been united to Christ. This is what life should look like because of the gospel."

Andrew Young "Quick fixes seldom remedy deep faults. As trying as the needy may be in a congregation, they are not to brushed off or deserted. On the contrary, they are to be borne with great patience."

Ephesians 4:11-12 11 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, (NKJV)

Andrew Young "Passive submission to wrongdoing is not what is required of us. We must do all that we can, expending every ounce of our energy, to return good for evil - and not only to those within the Christian congregation, but to everyone."

2. The gospel is to be lived out in your attitude and actions.

Romans 12:17-19 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. (NKJV)

Andrew Young "They are not to limit prayer to particular times in the day or to occasions when they meet together as a congregation. They are to live in an atmosphere of intimacy with God. Their hearts are to be lifted up to him even when their hands and minds are busy with other tasks."

3. The gospel is to be lived out in your response to the Spirit.

Andrew Young "Ingratitude is always a sign of unbelief. Faith recognizes that God is at work for our good and his glory in even the most seemingly adverse situations. It enables us to say thank you even through tears."

Andrew Young "There can be no expectation of blessing where he [the Spirit] is not honored and where his presence is not actively sought."

Richard Phillips "This means that to fuel the flame of God's Spirit, we must devote ourselves to the ministry of the Bible, in personal reading and especially in the preaching ministry of the church."