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TITLE: "ADVANCING WITH A CHURCH COVENANT"

TEXT: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:1

INTRODUCTION

A. WHO NEEDS COVENANT ACCOUNTABILITY?

- 1. THE PLAGUE OF INDIVIDUALISM IN THE CHURCH
- 2. THE BLESSING TO ALL OF ACCOUNTABILITY

B. WHAT IS THE NEW TESTAMENT MODEL?

- 1. THERE IS A WAY TO WALK
- 2. GOD STARTS BELIEVERS IN THAT WAY
- 3. ASKING & URGING IS PART OF THE PLAN
- 4. THE AIM IS TO GROW & PLEASE GOD

C. HOW SHALL WE USE OUR COVENANT?

- 1. ACKNOWLEDGE HOW IT PRESENTS THE WAY TO WALK
- 2. SEE ITS CONNECTION WITH OUR BELONGING TO GOD
- 3. ACCEPT THE NON-PASSIVE NATURE OF THE CHURCH
- 4. AIM AT PLEASING GOD, NOT MEN

D. How Should We Not Use our Covenant?

- 1. ... TO NOT SETTLE ALL THE DETAILED QUESTIONS OF LIFE
- 2. ... TO NOT SET-UP AN INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY
- 3. ... TO NOT SUPPOSE THAT CHRISTIAN LIVING IS ROUTINE
- 4. ... TO NOT SEPARATE SPIRITUAL ACTS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT
- 5. ... TO NOT SEGREGATE CHRISTIANS FROM EACH OTHER

