**Care For The Slow Grower & Hurtful Disciple**

**1 Thessalonians 5:14-15** (NIV) urges believers to live in harmony and pursue good in their relationships. Some do not grow as fast as we – the discipler – would like. Paul instructs the church to ***"warn those who are idle and disruptive,"*** encouraging diligence and order among members. Some of your disciples may be working against your leadership or against other Life Group members. Yes, they may be hurtful. This directive to leadership and disciple-makers reflects a premium on spiritual growth, ensuring no one hinders the community's faith.

He also advises to ***"encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone,"*** emphasizing compassion and support for those struggling, fostering a nurturing environment. Patience is key. Slow growth is a reality. Promote unity despite differences. Verse 15 warns against repaying evil with evil, instead urging believers to ***"always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else."*** This challenges Christians to break cycles of vengeance, promoting kindness and forgiveness. Together, these verses advocate for a proactive, loving community that uplifts all members and responds to evil with unwavering goodness, reflecting Christ’s transformative love in confronting the issues.

As you prepare for Fall Life Groups prepare your hearts for the inevitable. Immature, slow growing disciples can be discouraging, disruptive, and divisive. Kick off the Fall in confidence. You are not alone. Paul had to deal with the same things 2000 years ago.