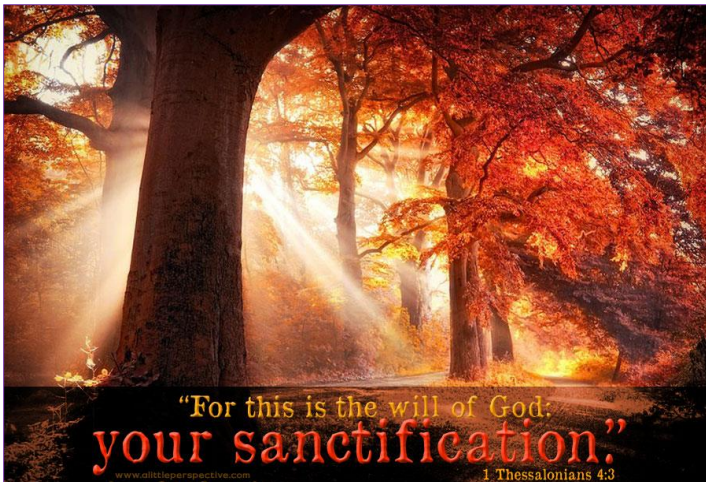




Paul urges the Thessalonian believers to continue on in holy living and moral purity, including abstinence from sexual immorality. He wants them to abound even more in unpretentious agape love toward one another and to live a life with a pure testimony before the unbelieving world.

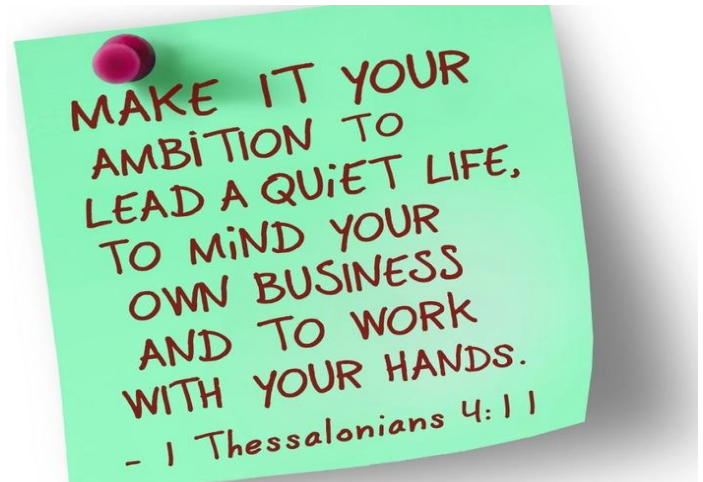
Outline

- Preview Introduction
- Plea For Purity 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
- Brotherly Love 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10
- Walk Properly 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12



Truths & Principles

- ✓ Scripture is our source for knowing God's will for our lives - including sanctification and purity.
- ✓ We are commanded to love one another by our Lord – it is not a suggestion. We need the Agape love of God to love even the unlovely.
- ✓ Faithful obedience to God is one way believers gain the respect of unbelievers.



Applications

- ✓ We need the Holy Spirit to control our every thought, word and action.
- ✓ We should worry less about temporal things and be concerned more about what kind of people we are - character matters.
- ✓ Make it your priority to love others, in tangible ways - even the unlovely.
- ✓ Live as Christ would want you to live – knowing that for some unbelievers you are the only Bible they will ever read.



Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. What does Paul urge and exhort (4:1)? _____
2. Who gave the Thessalonians the commandments (4:2)? _____
3. What is the will of God referenced in this verse (4:3)? _____
4. What were the Thessalonians commanded to abstain from (4:3)? _____
5. What manner are the Thessalonians to exhibit self-control (4:4-5)? _____
6. Who is the avenger of those who defraud others (4:6)? _____
7. God calls the Thessalonians (*and us*) to what (4:7)? _____
8. Who has God given us (4:8)? _____
9. Who have the Thessalonians shown brotherly love (4:9-10)? _____
10. What does Paul encourage the Thessalonians to aspire to (4:11)? _____
11. What is the outcome of following Paul's aspirations (4:12)? _____

Study Questions

1. Consider the culture in which Paul is living and preaching.
 - ❖ How do you think our culture is different?
 - ❖ How do you think our culture is the same?
2. Reflect on Paul's exhortation for moral purity in VERSES 1-8.
 - ❖ Why do you think Paul is focused on sanctification and the need to abstain from sexual immorality?
 - ❖ What tangible things can you do to allow the Holy Spirit to direct and control your thoughts, words and actions?
 - ❖ How can you abstain from impure thoughts, words and actions?
 - ❖ How does self-control apply? Contemplate GALATIANS 5:16-26.
3. Ponder VERSES 9-10 and Paul's command for brotherly love.
 - ❖ What tangible things can you do to allow the Holy Spirit to increase your love for other believers and others in general?
 - ❖ Can you identify someone in your life that you find hard to love? How do you think Jesus views this person? What would Jesus have you do to show love to this person?
4. Contemplate VERSES 11-12 and Paul's admonition to walk properly.
 - ❖ What does it mean to "live quiet lives" and to "mind your own business"?
 - ❖ Why do you think Paul brings up "working with your own hands"? Is this a problem in our day and age?
 - ❖ What tangible things can you do to allow the Holy Spirit to help you "walk properly"?