

Please God by Pursuing Purity

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

October 16, 2022 | Jeremy Chasteen, Lead Pastor for Strategy

BIG IDEA: Please God by pursuing purity.

I. Why should we pursue purity?

1. Pursuing purity is God's will (vv. 3, 7)

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 | 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

2. Sexual immorality is sin (vv. 3-5)

- i. Indulging in sexual immorality is sin

1 Corinthians 10:8a | We must not indulge in sexual immorality

- ii. Talking about sexual immorality is sin

Ephesians 5:3-5 | 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

- iii. Thinking about sexual immorality is sin

Matthew 5:27-28 | 27 You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

3. Sexual immorality destroys relationships (v. 6a)

4. Sexual immorality will be judged (vv. 6b-8)

Hebrews 13:4 | Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

II. How do we pursue purity?

1. Know God (vv. 4-5)
2. Depend upon the Holy Spirit (v. 8)

Galatians 5:16 | But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

3. Flee Sexual Immortality

1 Corinthians 6:18 | Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

How can we flee sexual immorality?

Psalms 119:9 | How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

How does Christ redeem a past of sexual impurity?

1 John 1:9 | If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Benediction

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 | 12 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.