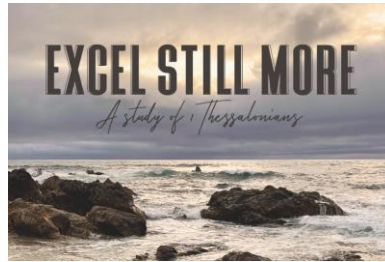


DISCIPLE'S QUEST

If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

John 8:31



November 12, 2023

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Your Walk Impacts Your Witness

Main Idea:

To grow in sanctification, the Thessalonian believers did not only need to abstain from sexual immorality and to abound in love; they also needed to live quiet, obedient lives by attending to their own business and working hard. In this way they would both please the Lord and amplify their gospel witness to the unbelieving.

Outline:

1. The danger - A restless, meddlesome mentality was creeping into the lives of some of the Thessalonian believers, thereby impeding their growth and sanctification and also harming their testimony to the watching world

2. The two-part directive to overcome the problem of undisciplined living:
 - Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business

 - Work with your hands

3. Two positive results:
 - You will walk (live) properly in the view of outsiders

 - You will not be in any unnecessary need

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

- #1 Is there a correlation between growing in personal holiness and being more effective as a witness for Christ?

Explain it...

- #2 In 5:14, Paul urges the believers to “admonish the unruly” in their ranks. According to the message, what were the “unruly” guilty of?

How might such behavior negatively impact other believers in the church?

How would it affect their witness to the watching world?

- #3 Why is it important to mind one’s own walk? - What are the benefits of doing so?

- #4 Why is it important for a Christian to have a good work ethic?