

THE WILL OF GOD, YOUR SANCTIFICATION

1 THESS. 4:1-8

Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how *you ought to walk and to please God*, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup> For this is **the will of God**, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each one of you know how to control his own body in *holiness* and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for impurity, but in *holiness*. <sup>8</sup> Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who *gives his Holy Spirit* to you.

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## 4:1-8 (ESV)

## **Transition: Personal to Practical**

**I. The Will of God: Spiritual Growth**

**II. The Will of God: Sanctification**

**III. The Will of God: Holiness**

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Gift: The Holy Spirit**

***“...vital for believers who are undergoing opposition for their faith.”*** Dr. Thomas L. Constable

**1 THESSALONIANS  
4:1-8 (ESV)**

***When the time comes...***

**2 Timothy 2:21**

**Ephesians 2:10**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

**Galatians 5:22+23**

**James 1:6**

**Philippians 1:6**

**VOLUNTEER  
READERS NEEDED**

# THE WILL OF GOD: SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- V 1 “Finally, then, brothers”

LOL! It’s Paul! Do the math: 46 verses in 2 chapters

- “We ask and urge you how you ought to”

erotao (er-o-tah’-o) = entreat, beg, beseech

parakaleo (par-ak-al-eh’-o) = summon, exhort

- “Ought to” *what? To what degree?*

- “More and more”

perisseuo (per-is-syoo’-o) = excel abundantly, overflow by far

- They were doing it! They were to add to it... *Shouldn’t we?*



# THE WILL OF GOD: SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- V 2 “Instructions” parangelia (par-ang-gel-ee’-a) = commands, proclamation
- *From where?*
- *For what purpose?*
- V 3 “The Will of God”
- *Which is?*
- **“Sanctification”** hagasmos (hag-ee-as-mos’) = purity, consecration (set apart)  
“a compelling obligation” Dr. Thomas L. Constable
- *Godly examples come to mind?*



# THE WILL OF GOD: SANCTIFICATION

- **Sanctification** = “same implement, different use” Dr. Constable
- **Examples?**
  - Money used to gamble versus to buy food for the needy
  - Being a couch potato versus helping a neighbor clear a driveway
  - Using a pagan holiday to honor God
- ***How is your life being sanctified?***



# THE WILL OF GOD: SANCTIFICATION

- V 3 “Abstain”

Apecho (ap-ekh'-o) = hold [oneself back,] prevent

- *From what? And why?*

- V 4 “Control”

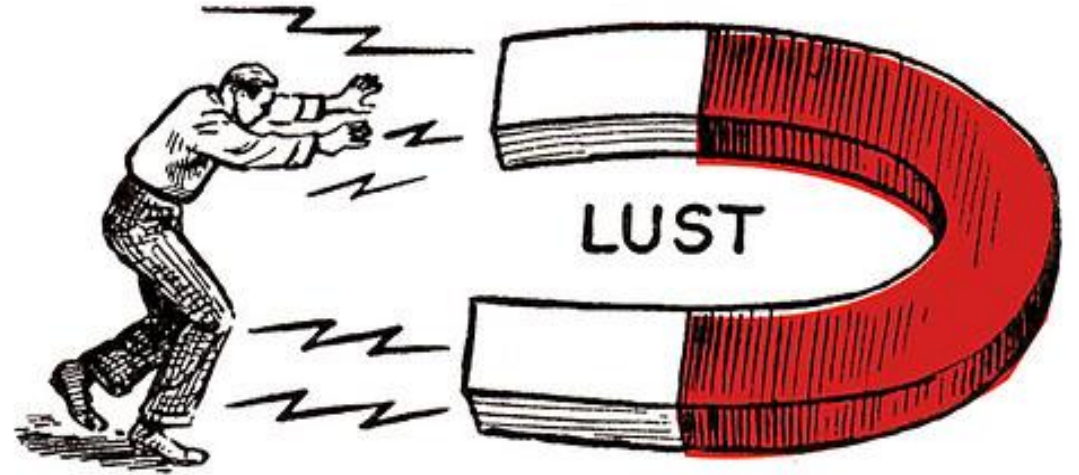
ktaomia (ktah'-om-ah-ee) = possess, take ownership

- *Control what?*

- V 5 “Lust”

= forbidden desire, craving (2 Tim. 2:21)

- “Not like” *Who? Why?* (Eph. 2:10)



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# THE WILL OF GOD: SANCTIFICATION

- V 6 “This matter”
- *What matter?*
- *Why not?*
- “the avenger”
- *So what?*

ekdikos (ek'-dik-os) = punisher, exacting the penalty

- “Solemnly warned you”
- *When? (verses 13-18)*



# THE WILL OF GOD: HOLINESS

- V 7 “Not impurity” of life, of motives
- “holiness” = sanctification, special use
- V 8 “disregards” = rejects, sets aside
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Gift: “Who gives His Holy Spirit to you” for our walking/pleasing Him
- *What does that look and feel like? How would you describe it? (Gal. 5:22+23)*  
Power to Abstain/Control! (James 1:6)  
“He can – He wants to – *He will!*” (Phil. 1:6)



# Response to **PAIN** in our lives:

## Self-Directed (pride)

- Self-medication (choice of sin)
- Isolation (darkness)
- Stuck in bad habits (bound by sin)
- Lies (insecurity)

## God-Directed (submission)

- Pain leads to,
- Prayer leads to,
- Growth leads to,
- Inner Peace

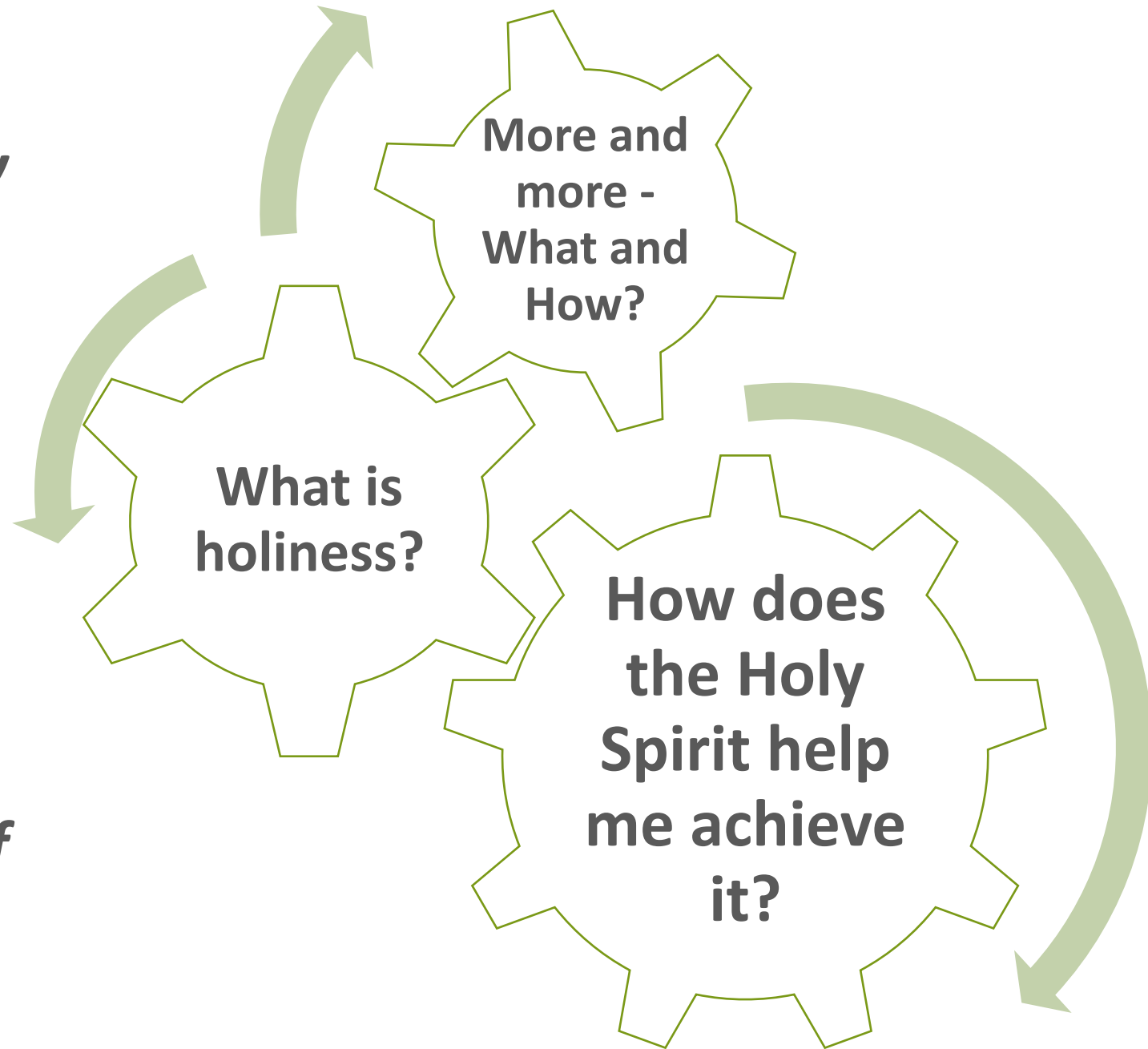
***Peace is not the elimination of pain.***

***It is contentment in spite of it!***

OUR CHOICE

# APPLICATIONS?

- *How can I best promote my spiritual growth?*
- *What does God want sanctification to produce in my life?*
- *How do I enlist the aid of the Holy Spirit?*
- *What is causing you pain?*
- *What is the godly means of addressing it?*



## **Bible Study tools**

**[Bible.com](http://Bible.com)**

**[Blueletterbible.org](http://Blueletterbible.org)**

**[Netbible.org](http://Netbible.org)**

**[RaptureReady.com](http://RaptureReady.com)**

## **Life Issues and Recovery**

**[CelebrateRecovery.com](http://CelebrateRecovery.com)**

**FBC Personal Purity Program**

## **Movies and Shows**

**[App.pureflix.com](http://App.pureflix.com)**

**[Pluggedin.com](http://Pluggedin.com) (reviews)**

**ADDITIONAL  
RESOURCES**



SEE YOU  
NEXT WEEK!

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12