



Living Distinctive Lives

Standing Firm – Part 6

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

As Christians, if we are going to have a positive impact on this world then we must be willing to live distinctive lives. Just about everyone would agree today that the moral foundations of this society seem to be crumbling away. And if we are going to crack this spiritually hardened world, it's not enough for us just to say, "I believe in God." We must be willing to live conspicuously different lives. That's what Paul is discussing in this passage of Scripture when he says that God has set us apart to be like Him. Let's look at the passage and learn some important truths to help us on our quest for distinctiveness.

I. AN AREA: _____ Purity (vv. 1-8)

A. This world is living in passionate _____.

B. While the world abandons restraint, the Christian is to live a life of _____.

1. God _____ purity. (v. 3)

2. How are we to be pure? By _____ - _____. (v. 4)

** People _____ what forces control their lives.

3. We are to be pure for the sake of _____ people. (v. 6)

C. Contrary to popular thought, sexual purity is _____.

II. AN ATTITUDE: _____ (vv. 9-10)

A. The world _____ about love, but in reality, it doesn't _____ it.

B. Jesus warned us that if we take a stand for biblical _____ that the world will _____ us. (John 15:18-19)

C. Those who take a biblical position today are under attack for a couple of reasons:

1. Men prefer the evil _____, and when the _____ is turned on they are very uncomfortable. (John 3:19)

2. But sometimes we _____ it.

D. As Christians we are to show compassion for those who _____ us. (Matthew 5:44-46)

III. AN ARENA: The _____ (vv. 11-12)

A. We have been commissioned by Christ to take the truth of the _____ into the _____.

B. To effectively share the gospel, you must have _____.

IV. Two Closing Thoughts:

A. God is _____ and He is going to hold us _____. (v. 6)

B. God is _____ and He wants to _____ you right now (Isaiah 1:18)