



THE TRANSFORMING GOSPEL

1 THESSALONIANS

1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Living to Please God

Without giving the answer of themselves, who do people generally try to please in our culture? What makes you say that?

After spending the first three chapters of 1 Thessalonians speaking about his relationship with the Thessalonians, Paul now turns his attention to matters of spiritual health within the Thessalonian church. Paul is wanting to remind the Thessalonian church, that their first master, the who they are to please is God. In chapter 4, Paul focuses in on three areas of the Christian life where he wants the Thessalonians to be pleasing to God.

1. Sexual immorality (v3-8)
2. Brotherly and sisterly love (v9-12)
3. Grieving those who have died in Christ (v13-18)

Pray

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

1. In verse 1, Paul asks and urges the Thessalonians to keep living to please God more and more. By what authority does Paul make this appeal to the Thessalonians and why is this important?
2. In verses 3 to 6, list out all the commands that Paul gives. What is Paul's overall argument that he is making about sexual immorality?
3. Looking at verses 6 to 8, what reasons does Paul provide for avoiding sexual immorality? How do these reasons show the seriousness of sexual immorality?
4. What practical steps can we take to avoid sexual immorality?
5. In verses 9 and 10, Paul commends the Thessalonians for their love of each other. At the end of verse 10 Paul then urges the Thessalonians to do so more. What might this look like practically to keep loving each other more and more?

