

# THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

## events

**Aloha!** Thanks for worshipping with us either online or in person. Please wear your mask before and after the service.

**Visitors**, we have a gift for you at the Welcome Table.

Please sign in your children for **Nursery and Kid's Church**.

**Middle School Youth Group**  
Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm

Ladies - please join the **Lei Class** if you are interested in making lei for our visitors. Nov 3 - 10 am or 5:30 pm.

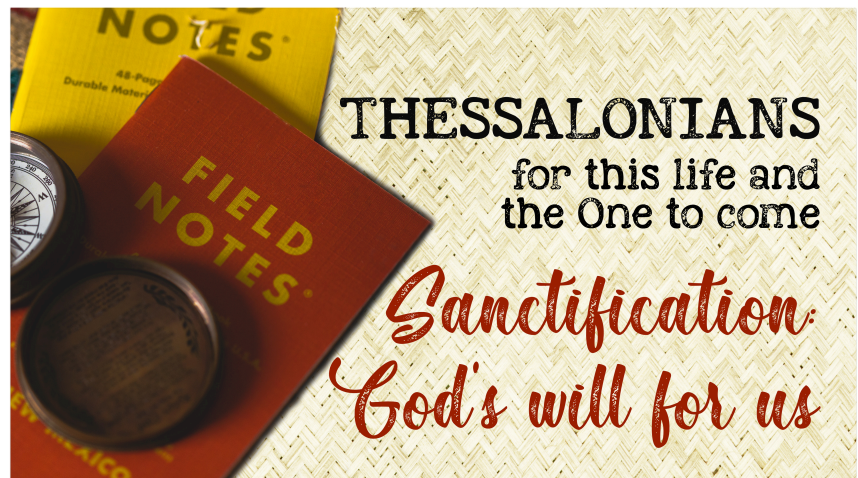
We are celebrating our **Harvest Festival** on Oct 30 with candy, games, and a **chili cook off**. The fun starts at 3:30 with hot dogs and chili at 4:30.

You can pick up your boxes for **Operation Christmas Child** this Sunday.

Please choose your date and time to help with our **Fall Tidy Up**. Contact Kalehua or Cheri.

### Ways to Give:

- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church



**Paul Kreitzer, Elder**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

**Big Idea:** Paul now begins to explain God's moral will on 5 major issues (4:1-5:22). In 4:1-2 we see that a God-pleasing life has both moral and social dimensions, characterized by holiness and love.

- Issue #1: How to walk in sexual purity
- Issue #2: How to walk in brotherly love

---

## GRACE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

---

### A Life Pleasing to God (4:1-12):

- What is the relationship between Paul's prayer in 3:11-13 and his instructions in 4:1-12?
- Take a moment to ponder what it means to "please God" (4:1; see also 2:4). What does this simple, yet profound truth — that we can bring pleasure to our Maker's heart — imply about who God is and what He is like?
- Have you ever wanted to know the will of God for your life? Thankfully, this passage offers a definitive answer. What is God's expressed will for you, according to verse 3?
- We find ourselves in the midst of an over-sexualized culture, even in a new sexual revolution of sorts. Words like "abstain" (verse 3) and "control" (verse 4) in reference to sexual expression sound prudish, even intolerant, to many. But in what ways does our culture misunderstand the Bible's sexual ethic? How is God's design for sexuality both counter-culturally beautiful and counter-intuitively freeing?
- If Paul were writing to the church today, what do you think he would say regarding sexuality?
- According to verse 5, the "passion of lust" marks those who "do not know God." In what ways, does giving in to lust constitute, or reveal, functional atheism (idea of living as if God doesn't exist)?
- Which Persons of the Trinity make an appearance in 4:1-8, and why is this significant? Why do you think the Holy Spirit in particular is mentioned in verse 8?
- According to Paul, one reason we should work faithfully is so that we may "walk properly before outsiders" (verse 12). In fact, to be "well thought of by outsiders" is a qualification for church elders (1 Timothy 3:7). Nevertheless, didn't Jesus say, "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you" (Luke 6:26), and "You will be hated by all for my name's sake" (Luke 21:17)? How do we reconcile such texts?
- How do you think unbelieving "outsiders" view our local church, and why? How do you think "outsiders" in your own life — whether family or friends or neighbors or coworkers or classmates or teammates — view you, and why?