



ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK: (15 minutes) Spend time catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)

SCRIPTURE READING AND OBSERVATION: (40 minutes) Read **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8** together, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy, then take a few moments to quietly reflect.

³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵ not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ 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. ⁷ For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. ⁸ Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

OBSERVATION:

- From the content in this passage, what can you say about God’s will regarding our sex lives?
- What do you think is included in the concept of “sexual immorality?”
- How is a commitment to sexual purity connected to our sanctification?
 - a. What does sexual purity develop in us?
 - b. How does our commitment to sexual purity impact the people we love?
 - c. How might our sexual attitudes and practices effect the impact of the Gospel in the world around us?
- Re-read and focus on verse 8 for a moment: What contribution does this verse make to the emphasis of the passage?

REFLECTIONS / DISCUSSION: (15 minutes)

- How do you think our sexual attitudes and practices effect our experience of the Holy Spirit’s presence, direction, and blessing in our lives?

Take some quite time for everyone to personally interact with the next three questions.

- What do you want when it comes to your sexual life? Do you want what you can manufacture and manipulate or do you want what God always intended for you to enjoy?

SURRENDER: (10 minutes)

- If you want what God wants, what is God saying to you about your sexual attitudes and/or practices?
- What are you willing to do about it?

PRAYER: (10 min) Pray together for one another, that God will move us all toward a higher view of human sexuality and a commitment to honor him in that critical area of our lives.