Lesson 4: **Live to please God**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-13

4:1 Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

4:3 It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

4:6 Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

4:7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

4:8 Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

4:9 Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.

4:10 Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

4:11 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

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**Instructions about living for the Lord**

▲ **We instructed you**

▼ Remember our assignment to you

1 Thessalonians 4:1 Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God.

▼ Recognize our authority with you

1 Thessalonians 4:2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

▲ We’re impressed with you

▼ Your present obedience is noted

1 Thessalonians 4:1 Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living.

▼ Your persistent and progressive obedience is necessary

1 Thessalonians 4:1 Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.

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**Instructions against lustful living**

▲ Sexual purity is prescribed

▼ Adopt a holy and honorable lifestyle

1 Thessalonians 4:3 It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable.

▼ Abandon the heathen lifestyle

1 Thessalonians 4:5 not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him.

▲ Severe punishment is promised

▼ We warned you already

1 Thessalonians 4:6 The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you.

▼ We warn you again

1 Thessalonians 4:6 The Lord will punish men for all such sins.

▲ Spiritual perspective is provided

▼ Respect the calling to separation and sanctification

1 Thessalonians 4:7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

▼ Receive the counsel and conviction of the Spirit

1 Thessalonians 4:8 Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

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**Instructions about loving liberally**

▲ Your love is commendable

1 Thessalonians 4:9 Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia.

▲ Your larger, longer love is compulsory

1 Thessalonians 4:10 Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

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**Instructions against lazy living**

▲ Be resourceful

▼ Withdraw from daily drama

1 Thessalonians 4:11 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business.

▼ Work with due diligence

1 Thessalonians 4:11 and to work with your hands, just as we told you.

▲ Be respectable

▼ A godly work ethic produces public respectability

1 Thessalonians 4:12 so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders.

▼ A godly work ethic provides personal resourcing

1 Thessalonians 4:12 and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.
Paul's Second Missionary Journey

- Luke added at Troas
- Timothy added at Lystra
- Paul and Silas start at Antioch
- Luke stays at Philippi
- Silas and Timothy stay at Berea until Acts 18
- Silas and Timothy rejoin Paul at Corinth
- Aquila and Priscilla added at Corinth
- Aquila and Priscilla stay at Ephesus
- Paul and Silas start at Antioch
- Silas and Timothy stay at Berea until Acts 18
- Aquila and Priscilla stay at Ephesus
- Paul and Silas start at Antioch