

Sunday, October 18th
1 Thessalonians 4:9-12
A Life Pleasing To The Lord

Context: At the beginning of chapter 4, Paul prefaces his instructions on purity, brotherly love, & work by explaining that he is doing writing so that we would know how we are to “live and please God.”

Verse 3 provides us the answer to the often panic causing question, What is God’s will for your life? The answer being, “Your sanctification.” This is God’s will for us. Whether we are a bank teller, restaurant employee, or mechanic...God’s will for you is to become more like Jesus. Verses 9-12 include and encouragement to grow in our love for one another as well as a mandate for how to live this Christian life in the everyday: Quietly, minding one’s own business, & working hard.

v. 9-10

We are taught by God to love one another.

- *“But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.”* 1 John 2:27
- The Holy Spirit teaches us how to live, think, work, and love.

Paul encourages for love amongst believers to continue to grow.

- There is always room for us to grow in taking advantage of the many opportunities to love one another
- There are so many things we can do: Write a letter, invite someone over for dinner, pray for someone, give financially to someone, it’s safe to say, probably needs it

v. 11-12

Thessalonica is a hustling bustling place. With a large population, the values of life consisted of noise, confusion, and hurry. Paul informs us that the

Christian life is radically different. The Christian life is one of calmness, peace, and self-control.

- We know that this became a pervasive problem with the Thessalonians. So much so, Paul warns to “*stay away*” from anyone who is not living according to the instructions here in 1 Thessalonians 4.

- 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12

We must consider anything and everything in our life that prevents a fuller and wider devotion to Jesus and get rid of it.

- *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us **run** with endurance the race that is set before us...”* Hebrews 12:1

Main Point: Live your life to please _____.