



WALK WORK WAIT

Fall Retreat 2016

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 | Blade J. Sbisá

KEY PASSAGE – 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;

11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;

12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

BACKGROUND

Book of Thessalonians

Author Paul

Ministers Paul, Silas, & Timothy

Audience Thessalonians (*new believers*)
& All the holy brethren (1Th 5:27-28)

Location Thessalonica

Time Period Approx. 50-51 A.D.

1Th 1:1

Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

KEY Themes

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|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Faith by the word of God | 8. Having a holy | 14. Glorification |
| 2. The Rapture of the Church | Conversation | 15. Brotherly Love |
| 3. Model Church | 9. The Lordship of Christ | 16. Working while waiting |
| 4. Persevering through persecution | 10. Proving out true Discipleship | 17. Thanksgiving |
| 5. Unity in the Body | 11. The power of unified leadership | 18. Preparation |
| 6. Submitting to Leadership | 12. Receiving the word with readiness of mind | 19. The faithfulness of God |
| 7. Abounding in Love | 13. The Return of the Lord | 20. The present Hope of the believer |
| | | 21. Living in light of Eternity |
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Brief Book Outline

- Chapter 1 – Planting the Church
 - Chapter 2 – Progress & Penetration
 - Chapter 3 – Proof of Discipleship and Preaching
 - Chapter 4 – Pleasing God by Sanctification
 - Chapter 5 – Principles & Practice
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Paul's Thesis

1Thessalonians 1

- 2** We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;
 - 3** Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;
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WALK

1 Thessalonians 4

1 Furthermore then we **beseech** you, (ask, pray, desire)
brethren, and **exhort** you by the Lord Jesus, (comfort, encourage, strengthen)

that as ye have received of us **how ye ought to walk** and to please God, Col 2:6-7
so ye would **abound more and more**.

2 For **ye know** what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

QUESTION 1

What have you received from your leaders that you still have yet to respond to?

2 Peter 1:5-10; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; Philippians 1:9; 1 Corinthians 15:58; Proverbs 4:18; Job 17:9

Sanctification

KEY POINT 1

Abstain from fornication

3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should **abstain from fornication**:

NOTE A

The measure of true faith is obedience

NOTE B

A mature believer knows Self-control comes by learning how to be Spirit-controlled

NOTE C

God intends for us to partake in His holiness by the blood of Jesus Christ

NOTE D

Fornication extends far beyond the physical act of illicit sexual intercourse

KEY POINT 2

Know how to possess your _____ vessel _____

4 That every one of you should **know how to possess** his **vessel** in sanctification and honour;

5 Not in the lust of concupiscence even **as the Gentiles** which know not God:

NOTE A

To be a successful Christian, you must learn how to have _____ ownership _____ over your mind

NOTE B

The only thing that can come _____ out _____ of you is what you have allowed _____ in _____

QUESTION 2

What are you allowing into your mind and heart? What do you see, think, imagine, feel, desire, entertain or meditate on throughout the day?

NOTE C

Until the grave, your old man will ever crave death and never lust less.

Sanctification is the daily process of being perfected in the _____ inward man _____ not the old.

NOTE D

If calling yourself a Christian is the only thing that changes, you are not a Christian

KEY POINT 3

Walk _____ together _____ in holiness

6 That **no man go beyond and defraud his brother** in any matter: because that the **Lord is the avenger** of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but **unto holiness**.

8 He therefore that despiseth, **despiseth not man, but God**, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

NOTE A

Put on the new man, not _____ a show _____ Col 3:12, Rom 3:23, Matt 23:27

NOTE B

We are one body fitly joined together – defraud a brother and defile _____ yourself _____

NOTE C

Holiness is the product of a proper perspective of God



WORK

Labour of Love

KEY POINT 4

Love cannot exist without _____ God _____

9 But as touching brotherly love **ye need not** that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are **taught of God** to love one another.

NOTE A

The _____ fruit _____ of holiness is a pure love

NOTE B

Love is learned, and taught of God

Ephesians

1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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QUESTION 3

Do you genuinely love _____ all _____ of your brothers and sister in Christ? Are you at ought with anyone?

.....

KEY POINT 5

Love must be made _____ manifest _____

10 And indeed **ye do it** toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye **increase more and more**;

NOTE A

Love is a _____ verb _____

NOTE B

A believer in Jesus Christ will ever be learning how to love more and more

GROUPS Q&A

1.

2.

3.

ADDITIONAL Q&A

Are you living a life of purity?

What do you allow into your mind on a daily basis?

Is there any hidden sin in your life that grieves the holy Spirit in you and needs to be dealt with?

If your leaders wrote a letter to you personally would holiness/sanctification be an area of focus?

Do you struggle with self-control or feel there is a sin you just can't seem to shake?

What do you keep going back to?

What practical step will you take to replace lustful actions and imaginations?

Are you having sex? Or "just" thinking about it?

Do you struggle with pornography? Masturbation?

Do you believe you have a proper prospective of God? How do you see God? Do you fear Him?

Are you pure outwardly but consumed by lust internally?

Are you living a life of love?

Have you been trying to love without righteousness?

Is the standard of your love dictated by the truth of God's word?

Could your leaders give you a letter that said they have *no need* of writing concerning brotherly love?

Is loving the brethren an intentional decision that you make?

Do you pray for God to teach you how to love more and more?

What practical steps will you take to do, choose, and abound in the love of God toward one another?



WAIT

REVIEW

1Thessalonians 1

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and **patience of hope** in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

Question 4

Is there anything that God asked you to deal with but you still haven't dealt with yet?

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

The Second Coming

KEY POINT 6

God will preform what he has promised

NOTE A

If you are putting faith in the word for God for salvation, the same weight must be placed on his return

1Th 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

1Th 2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

1Th 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

1Th 4:13-17 **16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1Th 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

NOTE B

1 & 2 Thessalonians was written to teach the Church how to prepare in the last days

KEY POINT 7

We must live in light of eternity

NOTE A

Waiting on Jesus is **not** synonymous with lazily gazing toward heaven **Acts 1:6-11**

1 Thessalonians 4

11 And that ye **study to be quiet**, and to **do your own business**, and to **work with your own hands**, as we commanded you;

12 That ye may **walk honestly** toward them that are without, and that **ye may have lack of nothing**.

1 Timothy 4 (Context: "in the latter times")

12 Let no man despise thy youth; but **be thou an example of the believers**, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

NOTE B

God can use you mightily for his Kingdom and will if you submit to his Lordship through the Bible

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Question 5

When are you going to personally own the work that God has called you to?

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1 Peter 3:15-17

NOTE C

Nobody is going to force you to be about the Father's business, not even God

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Question 6

Are you willing to give your life for the fame of Jesus Christ?

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NOTE D

Following God will cost you everything

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Question 7

Will you trust God to turn the world upside down? **Acts 17:6**

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GROUPS Q&A

1.

2.

3.

4.

ADDITIONAL Q&A

Are you living in light of the reality of heaven and hell?

Do you have an eternal prospective?

Are you a patient person? Are you faithful and content with where God has you?

Do you study to show yourself quiet before God? When? Where? What?

Are you willing to suffer for the sake of Jesus Christ?

Do you truly believe the Jesus Christ is coming to rule and reign?

Do you have any insecurity regarding your age?

What are you trying to prepare in your life before you serving God?

What changes are you going to make to walk uprightly before God in faith?

Do you believe you can change the world?

