

1 Thessalonians – Small Group Study Week Four

Verses for the week: 1 Thessalonians 4:1–8

Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God, as we have taught you. You live this way already, and we encourage you to do so even more. For you remember what we taught you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways. Never harm or cheat a fellow believer in this matter by violating his wife, for the Lord avenges all such sins, as we have solemnly warned you before. God has called us to live holy lives, not impure lives. Therefore, anyone who refuses to live by these rules is not disobeying human teaching but is rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Questions:

1. Paul again makes a plea for holiness and love, in Verse 1 saying "do so more and more."

What does this phrase mean to you? When is enough, enough?

2. In Verse 6, Paul says the Lord is an "avenger."

What does he mean by this? Isn't God all about love? Isn't the New Covenant all about love? Consider also Romans 13:1–7 in your answer.

Quote of the week: Each day we are becoming a creature of splendid glory or one of unthinkable horror. CS Lewis