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# SO THAT...



WEEK 1 | 3 WORDS, 5 MINUTES, 99 PROBLEMS

## WARM UP

Imagine you are about to start a new job in a new city, thus leaving the people you love, not seeing them and losing contact with them for a long period of time. You only have three words left to say to them. What would your three words be?

## WORD

*<sup>9</sup>Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, <sup>10</sup>for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, <sup>11</sup>and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, <sup>12</sup>so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.*

**1 Thessalonians 4 :9-12 (ESV)**

## NOTES

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## 1 Control Your Body

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*<sup>4</sup>that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup>not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. <sup>8</sup>Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.*

**1 Thessalonians 4:4-8** (ESV)

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The church at Thessalonica was surrounded by a city that was given to promiscuity as a part of its culture. Paul was urging the people in the church to carry themselves in holiness, be set apart for God's use, not give in to impurity. Understanding the susceptibility of the Thessalonians towards this sexual pressure, he reminds them of their calling to holiness, and that God has given his Holy Spirit to them to overcome.

- Given the pressures of today's society towards immorality being the norm, do you personally see the importance of Christians today walking in holiness? Why or why not?

## 2 Love One Another

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*<sup>9</sup>Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, <sup>10</sup>for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more...*

**1 Thessalonians 4:9,10** (ESV)

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In a society that was driven by trade and commercial advancement, there was much divisiveness present in the church. One of the greatest acts the church at Thessalonica could do to be a shining example of Christlikeness was to walk in love towards one another.

- What are ways that you can personally walk in love towards other people in the Church (other Christians) and to those who are outside of the Church?

## 3 Mind Your Business

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*<sup>11</sup>to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, <sup>12</sup>so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.*

**1 Thessalonians 4:11,12** (ESV)

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Paul urges the Christians of Thessalonica to mind their own affairs so that they would not be dependent on anyone outside of the church, and thus compromise their holiness. We, too, should walk in a way that primarily seeks to please God, before trying to look towards the approval of others.

## PRAYER

- Pray for the grace to not fall into temptation of compromise, whether in areas of purity or pleasing God before pleasing man.
- Praise God and thank Him for his grace that empowers you to overcome sin.
- Pray for the work that God has called each one of you to walk in, that God would be glorified in every aspect of your work.