

1 THESSALONIANS

Chapter 4:1-12 – The Need for Sanctification in Holiness
and Brotherly Love

We Must Grow in Holiness

- They were to “abound more and more” in submission to God’s will as they had already been taught – 4:1-2
- They were to abound in obeying God’s will to be sanctified in holiness – 4:3-5
 - It is God’s will that we abstain from sexual immorality – 4:3; 1 Cor. 6:11
 - We must *know how to possess our vessel in sanctification/honor* – 4:4-5
- Three reasons for sanctification in sexual purity – 4:6-8
 - God will avenge this sin – 4:6
 - God calls us to live holy lives – 4:7; 1 Pet. 1:13-15
 - To reject these instructions is not to reject man, but God – 4:8

We Must Grow in Brotherly Love

- There is a connection between holiness and brotherly love already established – see 3:12-13
- Paul praises them because they were doing so well in brotherly love that he didn't have to instruct them – 4:9-10
 - They had been taught by God to love each other – 4:9; 1 Jn. 3:16
 - They were to abound in love even more – 4:10
- The specific application of brotherly love may surprise you – 4:11-12
 - Aspire to live quiet lives, mind their own business, and work with their hands – 4:11; 2 Thess. 3:10-12
 - Benefits of these goals are proper living before those outside and having what one needs to live – 4:12; Eph. 4:28