

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 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. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

A Life Pleasing to God

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 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. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Genesis 1:24-25

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.”

Hebrews 13:4

“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.”

Sexual purity is not to be trifled with, but needs to be dealt with immediately

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, **we ask and urge you** in the Lord Jesus, that **as you received from us** how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For **you know what instructions we gave you** through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 **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**. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 **Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God**, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Matthew 5:27-30

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

God has a will for
each one of us...
our sanctification

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, **we ask and urge you** in the Lord Jesus, that **as you received from us** **how you ought to walk** and **to please God**, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For **you know what instructions we gave you** through the Lord Jesus. 3 **For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality;** 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 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**. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore **whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God**, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Sanctification

The word used here means the **process** of becoming holy.

It means to become **more and more** in line with what God wants us to be.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, **we ask and urge you** in the Lord Jesus, that **as you received from us** **how you ought to walk and to please God**, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For **you know what instructions we gave you** through the Lord Jesus. 3 **For this is the will of God**, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 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**. 7 **For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness**. 8 Therefore **whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God**, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

3 John 1:4

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”

Change requires both
knowledge and behavior

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

4 Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 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. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Bounce Your Eyes

Job 31:1

*“I made a covenant with my eyes
not to look lustfully at a young woman.”*

(From Steve Auterburn, Every Man's Battle)

Sticky Bomb

Philippians 4:8-9

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com/articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com /articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com/articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate
2. Encounter

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com /articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate
2. Encounter
3. Enjoy

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com /articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate
2. Encounter
3. Enjoy
4. Expedite

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com /articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate
2. Encounter
3. Enjoy
4. Expedite
5. Express

How An Affair Really Begins (The 6 “E’s”)

www.challies.com /articles/how-an-affair-really-begins

September 28, 2015, Tim Challies

1. Eliminate
2. Encounter
3. Enjoy
4. Expedite
5. Express
6. Experience

How An Affair Really Begins

Through it all, John Owen's insight remains so crucial:

*Sin always aims at the uttermost; **the smallest sin is but one step to the biggest and most treacherous sin.** That decision to neglect the pursuit of your wife, that surrendering of marital intimacy, these were only the first small, sinful steps to the destruction of your marriage.*

Hebrews 3:12-13

12 See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.

Hebrews 3:12-13

12 See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has **a sinful, unbelieving heart** that **turns away from the living God**. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be **hardened by sin’s deceitfulness**.

Don't harden your hearts

But encourage one another

Hebrews 3:12-13

12 See to it, **brothers and sisters**, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 **But encourage one another daily**, as long as it is called “**Today**,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.

Through Christ, we can
live a life pleasing to God

A Life Pleasing to God

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8