

PURELATIONSHIPS: Sexual Purity God's Way - Part 2
Sermon #2, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Main Point: God wants me to have sexual purity and empowers me to attain it.

Getting to Know You

1. Today we are going to continue our discussion about purity. Before we get into our main discussion I'd like each of us to finish this sentence: "I like my _____ to be clean." (The point of this is to show that most people like clean things; i.e. towels, bed sheets, food, car, etc.)

Getting Into the Book

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

2. According to verse 3, what is God's will for our lives? What does the word sanctification (used in vv. 3, 4, 7) mean? (Possible answers: to be set apart, holy, consecrated, reserved for special use. See 2 Timothy 2:20-22 as an illustration.)
3. In what specific way are we to be sanctified? See 4:3b, 4.
4. What damage is done to the name of Christ and His church when Christians live sexually immoral lives in the same way as unbelievers? See 4:5.
5. How is it possible for us to abstain from immorality in our world? Look up the following verses and discuss strategies for staying pure: Genesis 39:6b-12; Job 31:1; Proverbs 5:1-14; Matthew 5:27-28.
6. Read Mark 7:20-23. How will having a pure heart help you to have a pure body?
7. On whose authority is the command to abstain from immorality based? See 4:1, 2, 8.
8. How does the Holy Spirit empower us to live pure lives? See 4:8 and Galatians 5:16, 22-23.
9. Would anyone be willing share how God has sanctified you in the area of sexual purity?

Getting Out There

10. Discuss in your breakout groups specific ways you need to 'abstain from sexual immorality.' Ask others to pray for you in these areas. You can also praise Him for the victories He has given.

Prayer

Ask God to do His mighty work in you through His Holy Spirit to sanctify you for His glory.