

“Living to Please God” (Pt. 2)

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1 Thessalonians 4:1-2, 9-12

4.22.12

Introduction:

- A. Living a life that _____ God will also be a life that will get the attention of others and will _____ them.
- B. What is the criterion for living a life that pleases God and impacts others?
 - 1. Last week we addressed the first aspect - living a life of _____, which includes avoiding _____.

I. Living to Please God Means to Walk in _____.

- A. Christians are to be characterized by love because _____ is characterized by love. (1 Jn. 4:7-11; Jn. 13:34; Rom. 5:5; Gal. 5:23)
- B. Why is it so important that we love one another?
 - 1. Because _____ is _____.
 - 2. Because all of God’s _____ can be summed up in love.
 - 3. Because love makes a _____ - it changes lives.
 - 4. Because it confirms that we are _____ of _____.

II. Living to Please God Means to Walk in _____.

- A. It appears that some of the 1st century Christians, including some of the Thessalonians, misunderstood how to be ready for _____.
- B. Notice the reason Paul gave in verse 12 - to win the _____ of outsiders and to not be _____ on anybody.
- C. For Paul, a key to evangelism was the _____ of a Christian’s life.

Conclusion:

- A. There is a close connection between the way we _____ and the _____ that unbelievers will have toward the gospel.
- B. Even some prominent academic unbelievers like Robert Putnam are beginning to acknowledge the positive _____ Christianity can have for good.
- C. The story of Uwe Holmer and Erich & Margot Honecker.

Answer Key: Intro. A. pleases, impact. B.1. holiness, sexual, immorality. I. Love. I.A. God. I.B.1. God, love. I.B.2. commands. I.B.3. difference. I.B.4. followers, Jesus. II. Integrity. II.A. Christ’s, coming. II.B. respect, dependent. II.C. integrity. Concl.A. live, attitude. B. impact.