

1 THESSALONIANS

March 10, 2024

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

READ

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Genesis 39:1-18

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. This is not new instruction for the Thessalonians (vv. 1, 6b). Compare this passage in several different versions. Identify other translations of the word “sanctification.” Why does the Apostle Paul feel the need to revisit this subject?

2. What is “the will of God” for you (v. 3)?

In what way is this demonstrated? Define what this means. (Provide a good working definition for “abstain.”)

What did the apostle further say about this (1 Corinthians 6:18a)?

How did Joseph put this principle into practice (Genesis 39:1-18)?

3. How is sanctification portrayed in vv. 4 & 5? What is Paul describing here (note the New International Version translation)?

4. How does v. 6 fit into this instruction on sanctification?

5. What is God's purpose for you (v. 7)?

How does this go beyond the promise/gift of holiness (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16)?

6. Reflect on Paul's progression. How does lustful passion (v. 5; c.f., Matthew 5:28) contribute or lead to sexual immorality (v. 3) and result in impurity (v. 7; c.f., 1 Corinthians 6:18-20)?

7. What are the dangers of not walking in a way to please God (vv. 6 & 8)? (What is the difference between the Lord as the Savior and as the avenger? What does each reveal about the nature of God?)

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will excel still more in my pursuit of holiness this week by . . .

I will guard against sexual immorality this week by . . .

I will exercise control over my own body this week by . . .