



1 Thessalonians

A CALL TO PERSISTENT HOPE

1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-12

GROWING QUIETLY

1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-2

¹ As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus **to do this more and more.** ² For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.





GENESIS 1:11-12

¹¹ Then God said, “Let **the land produce** vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. ¹² **The land produced** vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was **good**.

GOD INSTILLED HIS
GOOD CREATION
WITH POTENTIAL TO
GROW



1 THESSALONIANS 4:3 A

³ It is God's will that you should be **sanctified**:



SANCTIFICATION

ἁγιασμός (*hagiasmos*)

CONSECRATION
PURIFICATION

AN **AWFUL** THING > A **MOST HOLY** THING

ἄγος (*hagos*) > ἅγιος (*hagios*)



YOU **ARE** GROWING –
THE QUESTION IS:

IN WHAT
DIRECTION?



1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-6

³ It is God's will that you should be **sanctified**: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should learn to control your own body^[a] in a way that is **holy** and honorable, ⁵ not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; ⁶ and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister.^[b] The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before.

[a] *or learn to live with your own wife; or learn to acquire a wife*

[b] *The Greek word (adelphos) refers here to a believer, as part of God's family.*





ISSUES FOR THE CHURCH IN **THESSALONICA**

1. **Sexual Immorality**

Using God's good gift of sexuality in ways that fall outside His design and purpose.



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1. **Sexual Immorality**

Using God's good gift of sexuality in ways that fall outside His design and purpose.

2. **Passivity and Laziness**

Avoiding the responsibilities God has given us and expecting others to carry what we should be doing ourselves.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:7-8

⁷ For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a **holy life**. ⁸ Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction **does not reject a human being but God**, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.



SALVATION IS NOT
JUST ABOUT A
MOMENT.

IT **USHERS US** INTO A
LIFE THAT REFLECTS
GOD'S DESIGN.





ISSUES FOR THE CHURCH IN **THESSALONICA**

1. **Sexual Immorality**

Using God's good gift of sexuality in ways that fall outside His design and purpose.

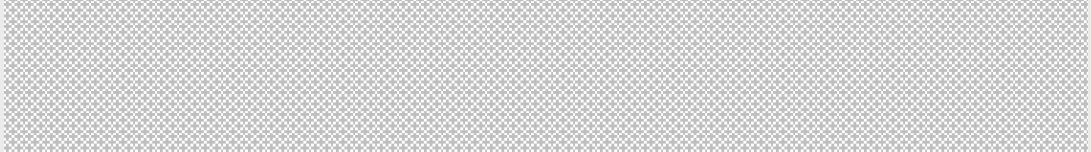
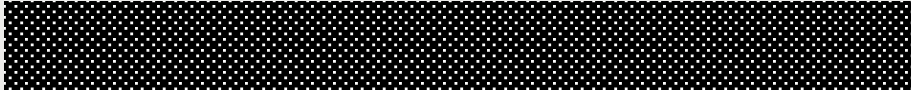
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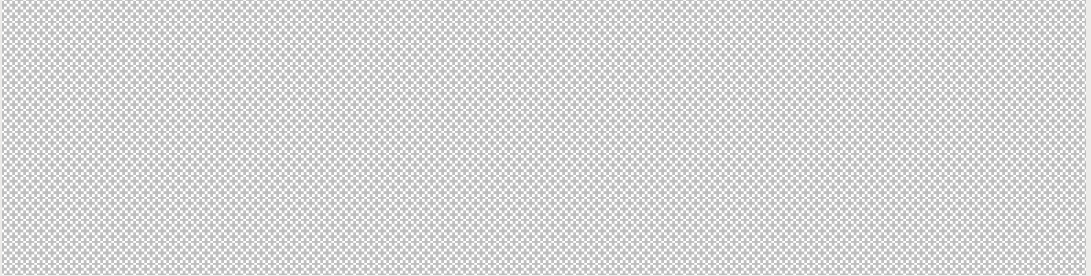
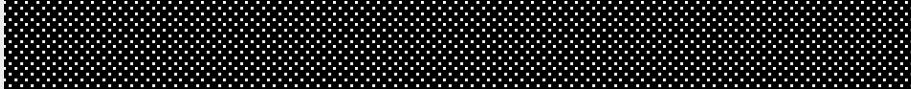


ISSUES FOR THE CHURCH IN
ALICE SPRINGS

1.



2.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-4

³ It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that **each of you should learn to control your own body^[a] in a way that is holy and honorable...**

[a] or *learn to live with your own wife; or learn to acquire a wife*



1 THESSALONIANS 4:9-12

⁹ Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. ¹⁰ And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to **do so more and more**, ¹¹ and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and **work with your hands**, just as we told you, ¹² so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.





2 THESSALONIANS 3:11-12

¹¹ We hear that some among you are **idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies.** ¹² Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.

SOMETIMES WE ARE SO
OBSESSED WITH STOPPING
SOMETHING THAT WE FAIL
TO DO THE OPPOSITE.

SANCTIFICATION
STARTS WITH
STARTING.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:9-12

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GENESIS 1:1-2

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was **formless and empty**, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

A QUIET LIFE

A LIFE WHERE YOU ARE
ADDING TO THE
ORDER, NOT TO THE
CHAOS.



*...live in order to please God, as in fact **you are living**. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus **to do this more and more**.
(1 Thessalonians 4:1)*

*...**you do love** all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, **to do so more and more**.
(1 Thessalonians 4:10)*

GOD IS STILL
GROWING **YOU**.

