

LIVE TO PLEASE GOD
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

INTRODUCTION:

Everybody lives to please somebody. Many people live to please themselves. They have no sensitivity to the needs of others. However, we must be careful when it comes to pleasing others. Pleasing God must be the primary goal of every Christian.

- “But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts” (1 Thess 2:4).

Notice with me, in our text, four ways in which Christians can live to please God:

- I. **Follow God’s Commandments** (v. 2)
 - A. 1 Thessalonians 5 contains a series of twenty-two (22) commandments for Christians (v. 11-28).
 - B. Be “given to hospitality” (Rom 12:13)
 - C. Be not ashamed of Christ (2 Tim 1:8; John 14:15; 15:14)

- II. **Abstain from Sexual Immorality** (v. 3)
 - A. The body is not for fornication, but for the Lord (1 Cor 6:13, 15).
 - B. Flee Fornication (1 Cor 6:18-20)
 - C. Definition of a Biblical Marriage (1 Cor 7:2)
 - D. Marriage may be helpful for avoiding fornication (1 Cor 7:12)
 - E. The “marriage bed” must be kept pure (Heb 13:4)
 - F. Do not associate with fornicators (1 Cor 5:9)

- III. **Separate from Uncleanliness** (v. 4, 7; Eph 5:3; 1 Pet 1:16)
 - A. Refrain from the “works of the flesh” (Gal 5:19-21)
 - B. Refrain from Gambling
 - C. Refrain from Soothsayers

- IV. **Be Honest** (v. 6)
 - A. Do not lie (Exod 20:16)
 - B. Do not steal or take advantage of others (Exod 20:15)
 - C. Do not cheat (Exod 20:15)
 - “Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another” (Lev 19:11).
 - “Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds” (Col 3:9)

CONCLUSION:

- A. Christians are to Live to Please God: Follow His Commandments, Abstain from Sexual Immorality, Separate from Uncleanliness and Be Honest.
- B. Christians – Are you living to Please God? - Is God pleased with how you are living?
- C. Romans Road ((Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).