

# GROWTH GUIDE

*For you. Your family. Your group.*

LIVING HOPE: HOLINESS MATTERS

1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-8

FOR THE WEEK OF MAR 28, 2021

## SERMON OUTLINE

Big Idea: In order for holiness to increase in my life, holiness needs to matter more to me.

1. My conduct in daily living matters. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2
2. My fight against sexual immorality matters. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-6a
3. My motivation for holiness matters. 1 Thessalonians 4:6b-8

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Why is Paul emphasizing the importance of holiness to the Thessalonian church? Why is the pursuit of holiness so important in the life of a believer?
3. How is the gospel sometimes misunderstood to be a license to sin? How is it wrongly used to minimize requirements for godly living? See Titus 1:16 and Romans 6:1-4.
4. Now consider the positive side of this issue. How does the gospel of grace compel us to live a life of holiness and repentance? See Titus 2:11-12.
5. What motivation for holiness do you need to give more weight to in your life? (Fear of God, call of God, authority of God, Spirit of God) What does that look like?

## BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. Clearly, God takes sexual immorality seriously. Do you? How are you fighting against sexual impurity in your life?
2. If we're to obey by controlling our bodies, what specific boundaries have you set up to purposefully discipline yourself in sexual purity? What are areas where additional boundaries are needed?
3. Beyond the specific sin of sexual immorality, ask yourself, "Am I living to please God in all areas of my life?" Which area first comes to mind as an area where you might not be pleasing God? (For example, marriage, parenting, thought life, relationships, expressing yourself, communication, work life, etc.

## PRAYER POINTS

1. Ask God for a greater desire to submit under the authority of Christ and the Word.
2. Pray for those entrapped in the darkness of sexual sin. Pray that they would bring their sin to the light and begin to fight against their sin.
3. Pray for the Good Friday and Easter services. Pray that people come and that God works in the hearts of those there.