

Thriving with the Thessalonians, pt 6

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

The talk

God's word to a sex-crazed world

Encouragement and exhortation (1-3)

Ask and urge

Target: *to walk and to please God* (cf 2:12)

Wholistic life change

The Great Commission is to make disciples, not converts.

Fundamental issue = sanctification, not sexuality (3)

Sanctification (cf Rom 6:17-23)

Problem: "My sexuality is none of your business."

We can't strip sexuality out of sanctification and come out whole.

Sanctified sexuality (3-7)

Control – *in holiness & honor*

Abstain from immorality ⇔ total separation

Immorality = all ungodly sexual activity

Context

Contrast – those who do not know God

Freedom from slavery

Motivations

Not sinning against one's brother

Fulfill our calling in Christ

Knowing the consequence = destruction; loss

Raising the stakes (8)

Making the right choice

Take it home