

Distinctive Living

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Getting Started

1. As a group try to list some positive distinctives about each person in the group.
2. Alternate: Have each person mention five distinctives about their lives (four true, one false) and have the group try to spot the one that is false.

In the Word (1 Thes. 4:1-12; 1 Peter 2:9-12)

Groups are not expected to discuss all questions!

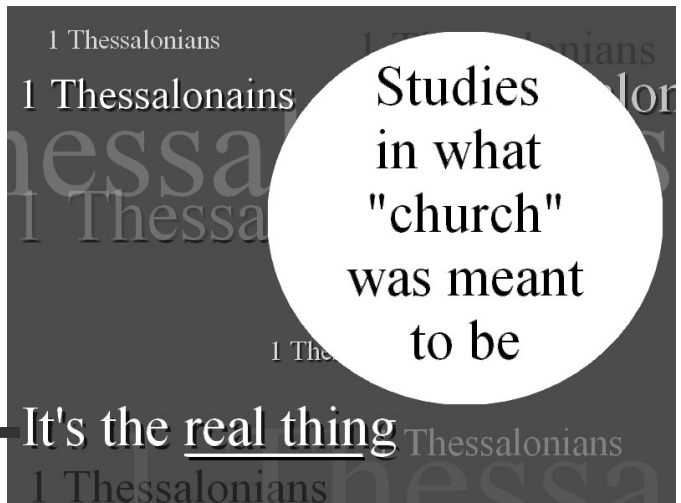
1. This morning we heard about Paul's directions to the Thessalonians to live holy lives? Why are Christians to do this? How does this not become self-righteous?
2. What is the relationship of belief and behavior? What is happening with a belief that does not alter behavior? What is wrong with "right" behavior devoid of belief?
3. How can we get our belief and behavior to become consistent with one another? (Does this have anything to do with "grace" and "faith"? How?)
4. "To say 'yes' you must learn to say 'no'." What does that mean? How is it related to self-control? Why do you think Paul specifically addresses the challenge sexual immorality?
5. For whose sake are Christians to lead "holy lives" (1 Thes 4:6)? How could this relate to what Peter wrote in 1 Peter 2:9-12?

Application

1. Recently the Willow Creek Church released a "confession" that stated (among others things) that their emphasis on "activity" had neglected the need to encourage Christians to pray, study, and reflect on how to apply God's word to their life. How can you, and we as a group, encourage real spiritual growth this week? How does this relate to what is sharing with the Thessalonians?

Additional Shepherds-Elders and Servants-Deacons

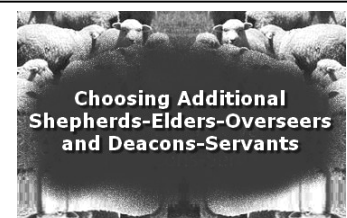
1. Please pray for the church as we seek out those whom God would have serve the church. If you have not already done so please go on-line **tonight** and share the names of those you would like to nominate for the Screening Committee.
2. Please begin now to study passages addressing leadership in the Kingdom of God (Mt 18:1-6; 20:25-28; Mark 9:33-37) and elders and deacons (Acts 14:23; 20:25-31; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4).



February 24 - 25



2 prayers for 2 hearts + 1 investment + 1 invitation =
The Greatest Gift



Please keep the church in your prayers as we go through the process of identifying additional shepherds-elders and servants-deacons

Grand Central GCGD Community Groups
Helping people find Jesus Helping believers become disciples

