



1 Thessalonians 4:1-8  
Model Behavior—part 2  
From sermon 1.30.22

Read *1 Thessalonians 4:1-8*

Review from Sunday's sermon: Having run out of time last week, we really needed to give this topic justice and priority. Paul has thoroughly dealt with the internal (x-ray) condition of the Thessalonian church. The Spirit now has him address their external lives—out in the world. Like us, they lived in a sexually saturated culture, where nothing was forbidden. They had to unlearn the old and take hold of the holy new.

1. The world says: "Live for yourself (fulfillment), follow your heart, & never hide the real you". Read the Bible passages: *Colossians 3:5, Romans 8:13, Galatians 5:24*. Discuss their exact polar opposite take on self, heart, and the real you. Personal insights. Man is sinful to his core (total depravity). Even redeemed, these old bodies and flesh are at war with our new minds. We are told to live for Christ, surrender the heart, and put to death the old, natural us, again and again and again.

2. 10 Commandments: Take the quiz again. Be sure to add any notes or lessons you gained from Sunday.

1. No Other God(s)
2. No Idols
3. No Taking the Lord's Name in Vain
4. Keep the Sabbath
5. Honor Your Parents
6. Don't Kill
7. Don't Commit Adultery\*
8. Don't Steal
9. Don't Lie
10. Don't Covet

3. What was the huge, early problem in the Church regarding the Law? The Jerusalem Church (and later the Antioch) were predominantly Jewish background. Suddenly, non-Jews (Gentiles) were genuinely coming to Christ. The question was: Do non-Jewish converts first have to become Jews and follow the Law?

4. According to *Acts 15:19-20*, what was the conclusion? The Gentiles are not obligated to the Law.

See also *Romans 6:14*

4a. Are we bound to the 10 Commandments? Yes. With the exception of sabbath. All are repeated in the New Testament, except for the Sabbath. The 10 Commandment are God's Moral law = they stand. They do not change with time or culture. We are free from the civil laws for ancient Israel, the ceremonial & ritual laws, & any dietary restrictions.

4b. Why did the Apostles give any dietary restrictions to those first churches? For the sake of unity. To let the Church grow into its liberty. See *1 Corinthians 8:4-8*. With that, their only timeless instruction would be: abstain from sexual immorality.

5. The world says: "Your body is your own. No one can mandate what you do with your own body." However, the Bible clearly says: As a believer, your body is not your own. See *1 Corinthians 6:13-20*