

Pleasing God

It pleases God when:

1. We abstain from sexual immorality
2. We live with love
3. We mourn with hope

Abstain from sexual immorality

1 Thess 4:1-8 Paul taught people how to live in a way that _____ God.

John 8:28-30 *Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." 30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. NKJV*

Jesus a lonely, humiliating, and painful death because His _____ was on pleasing His Father.

Jesus taught the importance of seeking to please God when He taught to do your charitable deeds, pray, and fast so that God sees us, because it is only God who can _____ us. (Matt 6:1-21)

2 Cor 5:9-11 *Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. NKJV*

When we stand before the judgment seat of Christ, _____ approval is all that will matter to us.

It pleases God when Christians _____ from sexual immorality.

Worldly people are not our example of how to act in this world.

Trying to please fickle people only leads to _____.

Acts 15:19-20 *Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, 20 but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood. NKJV*

One of the few things that the Apostles wanted to impress upon the Gentile converts, is that they needed to abstain from sexual _____.

1 Cor 6:13-20 Our bodies are not ours, but _____.

Our bodies are the _____ of the Holy Spirit who is in us.

In 1 Thessalonians 4:8 Paul said that if we reject the teaching of sexual purity, we are rejecting the teaching of God who has "given us His _____ Spirit."

2 Tim 2:22 - Paul told Timothy to _____ youthful lusts but pursue a life that pleases God.

Live with Love

1 Thess 4:9-12 - The Thessalonians were taught by _____ to love one another.

God teaches us through creation (Romans 1). God teaches us through His providence (Gen 45:7-8; Heb 12:3-11). God teaches us by the examples of others (1 Cor 11:1; Heb 6:12; 2 Thes 3:7). God teaches us through His word (2 Tim 2:15; Heb 4:12-13). God teaches us directly. (1 Thess 4:9; Matt 16:16-20; Jn 6:45; Heb 8:7-13).

Paul commanded them to:

1. Lead a quiet life.
2. Mind their own business.
3. Work with their hands.
4. Walk properly toward those who are outside.

John 13:34-35 *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

NKJV

Loving one another is a _____ way to be an example to the world.

1 John 3:10-15 - We know that we have passed from death to _____ if we love the brethren.

It _____ God when we love His children.

Mourn with Hope

1 Thess 4:13-18

Knowledge and a belief that Jesus was raised from the dead, comforts us during times of sorrow.

The Lord will descend from heaven:

- With a _____.
- With the voice of an archangel.
- With the _____ of God.

The dead in Christ will rise first and then believers who are alive will be caught up in the air to meet the Lord.

We will _____ be with the Lord!

We use these thoughts to _____ one another.

1 Cor 15:51-58 *Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. NKJV*

For Christians, death is a sign of _____ instead of defeat. We know we will be raised with Christ!