

SERMON NOTES

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CALLED TO PLEASE GOD

1 Thessalonians 3:11-4:8

August 31, 2025

BIG IDEA: God calls us to grow in love and holiness as we await the return of Jesus.

GOD STRENGTHENS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH PRAYER (vv. 3:11-13)

Our <u>perseverance</u> in holiness is fueled by God's presence and power.

Prayer shapes us to live in light of Christ's coming.

GOD CALLS US TO EXCEL IN LOVE (vv. 4:1-2)

Stagnation is disobedience—we must grow in love.

Obedience flows out of knowing and loving God, not mere duty.

GOD CALLS US TO HOLINESS IN A WORLD OF IMMORALITY (vv. 3-8)

God's will for us is our <u>sanctification</u>, especially sexual purity.

Holiness is not just avoiding sin, but it is living set apart for God's purposes.

QUESTION TO PONDER

Where have you grown stagnant in love or holiness, and what step will you take this week to grow in pleasing God instead of blending with the culture?

Scripture Verses (ESV): 1 Thessalonians 3:11-4:8, John 15:4-5, Luke 21:36, John 13:35, 2 Corinthians 5:14–15, Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20