

## INTRO

Spend some time reading/talking through the kingdom citizen commitments as a reminder of our commitment as a church this election season. If you need the document, you can access it [here](#).

## IDEA 1

As we dig into 1 Thessalonians 4, Rob shared that there are three ways we'll look different from our culture which will cause people to notice and ask questions:

- We live sexually without greed.
- We love people at our own expense.
- We hope even when death is present.

He shared that living in these ways is an act of worship. **How would you describe these three things as acts of worship?**

**What is the Holy Spirit's role in living this way?**

**How can our behavior and worship reflect His goodness and not come from a place of fear or duty?**

## IDEA 2

Paul spends some time in this chapter teaching on sexual morality. Just like the people of Thessalonica, it is so much easier to take our standards of sexual morality from our culture today than from God.

**Process with your group some of the differences between God's desire for us and how it differs from our culture.**

God wants us to live flourishing lives, yet often when this subject comes up, instead of encouraging us to lean into flourishing for the future we can feel shame about the past. Remember, Jesus' blood covers your past AND the Spirit is available to walk into the future with you. **Take some time to pray together against guilt and shame and ask Holy Spirit to help us walk into the future.**

**How can we support each other as a body of believers as we live into this holy calling?**

## IDEA 3

Rob shared that we at Salem Alliance love people at our own expense well. **How have you seen this to be true?**

Paul then turns his attention to those who were grieving. Paul was meeting people in their grief and he wanted to bless them with hope. He wanted the hope present at funerals to be one more thing that is counter to the culture in which they lived, just like living with sexual wholeness and loving people at our own expense. We hope even when death is present.

**Why are we able to hope even when death is present?**

## EXPERIENCING GOD TOGETHER

We have so many ways to learn from each other— different life experiences, stages of life, mistakes, and successes. **What have you learned from others about holy living? About worship? About wholeness and flourishing? About grieving with hope?**

Continue to practice sharing stories by opening up some time in your group to have people share their answers to those prompts.

## PRACTICE THIS WEEK

This week, take some time to memorize **1 Thessalonians 4:1-2**. Put it somewhere where you will see it often. Keeping verses like this in our hearts and minds will help us remember that the way we live is different from the world and that will point people to Jesus.

*Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God, as we have taught you. You live this way already, and we encourage you to do so even more. For you remember what we taught you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.*