



Sexual Purity Course Lesson 28

Scripture: Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8.

Study:

1. This passage speaks of "sanctification." What does this term mean?
2. The teaching of this text is that Christians are to abstain from sexual immorality. Explain the standard in this passage. Define the word "abstain".
3. We tend to think that if we abstain from sexual immorality that we are doing nothing with our body. It is neutral. Paul gives a different and more positive explanation. How does this passage view the body of the person who abstains from sexual immorality?
4. What point is being made by mentioning that Gentiles do not know God? Connect your answer to the topic of sexual purity.
5. Notice that once again this teaching comes with a warning about future judgment. What does this particular warning teach us about God?

Application:

1. The whole topic of sexual purity is put under the rubric of living to please God. How does this perspective on sexual purity impact you?
2. Have you really accepted God's standard on sexual immorality? If not, what else needs to begin to change today?
3. Notice in verse 8 that God "gives" His Holy Spirit to you. The present tense is very significant. The giving of the Spirit here is not referring to what God did on Pentecost when He gave the Spirit. Instead it is talking about what God continually does for His people. This passage teaches that God gives the Spirit to His people right at the moment they are being tempted to commit the sin of sexual immorality. Explain what this means for you in your battle for sexual purity.
4. Commit 1 Thessalonians 4:8 to memory. Meditate on the personal and practical significance of these words.