

1 THESSALONIANS

**STANDING FIRM & PRESSING ON,
UNITED TO JESUS.**

Brotherly Love Pleases God

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

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August 5, 2018*

First Thessalonians 4:9-12 describes three specific ways by which we can grow in showing the world what God-pleasing love looks like in everyday life.

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are to grow in our understanding of the magnitude of Christ's love and in our application of that love in and through our own lives.

Paul urged the Thessalonians to please God through holiness, and then he taught them how sexual purity is a specific and practical way to grow in holiness.

Paul then urged the Thessalonians to please God through brotherly love, and then he taught them three specific and practical ways to do so:

1. Peaceful – to aspire to live quietly

2. Kind – to mind your own affairs

3. Hard working – to work with your hands

Questions to Consider

1. Besides the exhortations in this passage, what are some practical ways that you have learned to be more like Jesus Christ in your love for others?
2. What does Paul teach in 4:9-10 about his approach to discipleship?
3. In 4:11 we are urged to live quietly. Think about the unbelievers who come into contact with you; what priorities do they see in your life based on what you often talk about?
4. What are some practical ways that you might love unbelievers by minding your own affairs?
5. How is working hard a display of love toward other people? Does your work ethic demonstrate love for others?
6. In what way was political ambition in the First-Century world of the Roman Empire similar to ours today? What lessons can we apply from this passage to how we participate in politics?