

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

First Thessalonians Bible Study — I Thessalonians 3:6-13 & 4:1-6

Lesson #5

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in First Thessalonians before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures used are from the New King James Version.

6-7 But now that **Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love**, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also to see you – therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were **comforted concerning you by your faith.**

•**Acts 15:36** “Then after some days _____ said to Barnabas, ‘Let us now go _____ and _____ our _____ in every city where we have _____ the _____ of the _____, and _____ they are _____.’”

•**Philippians 2:19** “But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send _____ to _____ shortly, that I also may be _____ when I _____ your _____.”

8-10 **For now we live, if you STAND FAST in the LORD.** For what thanks can we render to God for you, **for all the JOY with which we REJOICE for your sake** before our God, night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

•**Philippians 4:1** “Therefore, my _____ and longed for _____, my _____ and crown, so _____ in the Lord, beloved.”

•**I Corinthians 16:13** “_____, stand _____ in the _____, be brave, be _____.”

Definition: “STAND FAST in the Lord” – The word FAST here does NOT mean speedy, but it means to be **FIRM and stay in one place**, as in FASTENED. Paul is exhorting, encouraging, and maybe even **WARNING the Believers to NOT drift away from their faith in Christ**, or grow WEAK in FAITH.

•**Hebrews 2:1** “Therefore we must give the most _____ heed (pay attention) to the _____ we have _____, lest we _____.”

Definition: “All the JOY with which we REJOICE for your sake” – Through all the trials and difficulties Paul had, **he was always ENCOURAGED and REJOICED** when he would hear that the churches were doing well and staying faithful to Christ and the word of God.

•**Philippians 4:4** “_____ in the Lord _____. Again, I will say _____!”

•**I Thessalonians 5:16-18** “_____ always, _____ without ceasing, In everything _____; for this is the _____ of God in Christ Jesus for _____.”

•**Psalms 34:1** “I will bless the Lord at _____; His _____ shall _____ be in my mouth.”

11-13 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. And **may the Lord MAKE you INCREASE and ABOUND in LOVE** to one another and to all, just as

we do to you, **so that He may ESTABLISH your HEARTS BLAMELESS in HOLINESS** before our God and Father **at the COMING of our Lord Jesus Christ WITH all His SAINTS.**

• **II Corinthians 4:15** “For all things are for your sakes, that _____, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to _____ to the glory of God.”

• **Ephesians 4:23-24** “And be _____ in the spirit of your mind; and that you put on the _____, which was _____ according to God, in _____ and true _____.”

• **II Corinthians 7:1** “Therefore, having these promises, Beloved, let us _____ ourselves from all _____ of the _____ and _____, perfecting _____ in the fear of God.”

Definition: “May the Lord MAKE you INCREASE and ABOUND in LOVE” – To ABOUND, or to be ABUNDANT means to be present in GREAT QUANTITY. Just as we are able to GROW and INCREASE in our faith and knowledge, we are also able to grow in LOVE.

• **Philippians 1:9** “And this I pray, that your _____ may _____ still more and _____ in _____ and all _____.”

• **Romans 5:20** “Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, _____ much _____.”

• **I Peter 1:3** “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His _____ mercy has begotten us again (caused us to be BORN AGAIN) to a living _____ through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

• **Isaiah 55:7** “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him _____ to the Lord, and He will have _____ on him; and to our God, and He will _____ pardon.”

• **II Corinthians 9:8** “And God is able to make all _____ toward you, that you, always having _____ sufficiency in _____ things, have an _____ for every good work.”

Definition: “So that He may ESTABLISH your HEARTS BLAMELESS in HOLINESS” – Since God chose us and SAVED us apart from any goodness of our own, He is able also to KEEP US from FALLING and to PRESENT us HOLY, BLAMELESS, without fault or SIN before Him. We are saved by GRACE, not of our own works, and we are JUSTIFIED and God declares us without fault or sin because of our faith in Jesus Christ.

• **Jude 24-25** “Now unto Him who is able to keep you from _____, and to present you _____ (without blame) before the _____ of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior.”

• **Ephesians 1:4** “Just as He _____ us in Him _____ the foundation of the world, that we should be _____ and _____ before Him in love;”

Definition: “At the COMING of our Lord Jesus Christ WITH all His SAINTS” – The Second Coming of Jesus Christ will happen in two stages: (1.) The “Rapture” - when the Believers in Christ are CAUGHT UP to meet Jesus in the clouds. This “return” is not visible to the general public (the world), because Jesus only comes down part way, to the clouds, for a SECRET RETURN to GATHER UP His church; and (2.) The “Glorious Appearing” - At the END of the seven-year Great Tribulation, at the battle of Armageddon will be His VISIBLE and triumphant return (the “sign” of His coming). The Rapture is NOT the same as His VERY VISIBLE Second Coming, when His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, and He will come with all His armies of SAINTS (believers) and angels with Him. The

Rapture and the Second Coming at the “end of the age” are TWO SEPARATE EVENTS. **This verse in I Thessalonians refers to the SECOND COMING - His coming WITH the saints.**

●**Matthew 24:31** “Then shall _____ the _____ of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth _____, and they shall _____ the Son of Man _____ in the clouds of heaven with _____ and great _____.”

●**Zechariah 14:3-5** “Then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His _____ shall _____ on the mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall be _____ on two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, for the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the _____ my _____ will _____, and _____ the _____ You.”

●**II Thessalonians 2:8** “And then that lawless one will be revealed whom the _____ will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the _____ of His _____.”

●**I Timothy 6:14** “That you keep the commandment without stain or reproach, until the _____ of our Lord _____ Christ, which _____ will bring about at the proper time....”

●**Revelation 1:7** “Behold, _____ is _____ with clouds, and _____ will _____ Him, and they also who pierced Him. And _____ the tribes of the earth will _____ because of Him. Even so, amen.”

●**Revelation 19:13-14** “He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The _____ of _____. And the _____ in heaven, _____ in fine _____, _____ and clean, _____ Him on white _____.”

Chapter 4

1-2 Finally, then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as **you received from us HOW you OUGHT to WALK and to PLEASE GOD**; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

●**Romans 8:8** “So then, _____ who are in the _____ God.”

●**Hebrews 11:6** “But without _____ it is _____ to _____ Him (God), for he who comes to God must _____ that He is, and that He is a _____ of those who diligently _____ Him.”

●**I John 3:22** “And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we _____ His _____ and do those things that are _____ in His sight.”

●**Hebrews 6:1** “Therefore, leaving [*behind*] the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection (maturity), not laying again the _____ of _____ from _____ works and of _____ toward God.”

●**Hebrews 9:14** “How much more shall the _____ of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge (cleanse) your conscience from _____ works to _____ the living God?”

Definition: “CANNOT PLEASE GOD” and “DEAD WORKS” — These two are basically the same: **DEAD WORKS** are **religious works** or **good deeds** done in the **power of the flesh**, and a person who is **operating in their FLESH**, and not in FAITH and the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT, **CANNOT DO ANYTHING** that will be **pleasing to God**.

● **John 15:5** "I am the Vine, you are the _____. He who abides in (stays close to) Me, and I in him, bears much _____; for without Me you can do _____."

● **John 15:8** "By this is My _____ glorified (it's PLEASING to Him), that you bear much _____; so you will [prove to be] My _____."

3-6 For **this is the WILL of GOD, your SANCTIFICATION: That you should ABSTAIN from SEXUAL IMMORALITY**; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because **the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.**

● **Hebrews 13:4** "_____ is honorable among all, and the [marriage] bed _____; but _____ and _____ God will _____."

Definition: "This is the WILL of GOD, your SANCTIFICATION: That you should ABSTAIN from SEXUAL IMMORALITY" – SANCTIFICATION means HOLINESS, PURITY, being SET APART for God and His use. The word "SAINT" comes from the same word as "sanctified" in the Greek. This is the WILL of GOD for every believer in Christ, and one of the ways we are to stay PURE is **to ABSTAIN (stay away from) any kind of sexual immorality.**

● **Ephesians 5:3** "But _____ and all _____ or _____, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for _____."

● **I Corinthians 6:18-20** "Flee _____. Every _____ that a man does is _____ the body, but he who commits _____ sins against his own _____. Or do you not know that your _____ is the _____ of the _____ who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were _____ with a _____; therefore glorify God in your _____ and in your _____, which are God's."

● **Exodus 20:17** "You shall not _____ your neighbor's _____, you shall not _____ your neighbor's _____, nor his _____, nor his _____, nor his _____, nor his _____, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

Definition: "FORNICATION" – ANY sexual intercourse other than between a man and woman **married to each other.** It is translated "**SEXUAL IMMORALITY**" in the newer versions.

Definition: "COVETOUSNESS" – GREED, craving for possessions, especially desiring things that belong to someone else. In the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:17, COVETING someone else's WIFE would be considered ADULTERY. Jesus taught that even lusting after another person in your heart was the same as committing the act of adultery.

● **Matthew 5:27-28** "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall _____ commit _____.' But I say to you that whoever _____ at a woman to _____ for her has already committed _____ with her in his _____."

Definition: "The LORD is the AVENGER of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified" – God's anger against sin is nothing to take lightly. Whether God Himself executes that judgement, or He allows the officers of the law to do it, our sin carries serious consequences.

•Romans 13:4 “For he is _____ minister to you for _____. But if you
_____, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is
_____ minister, an _____ to execute _____ on him who practices
_____.”