### 1 Thessalonians

## Chapter 4

1Finally brothers:  
  
We ask and urge you by the Lord Jesus to follow the path of what you learned from us, and to keep on pleasing God.  
  
Although you’re already doing this, you must do it even more so!  
  
2For you’re aware of these orders that we gave to you through the Lord Jesus:  
  
 3‘It is God’s Will [for you] to be holy and to stay free from sexual immorality.’  
  
4So you must each learn how to take control of yourselves in holiness and honor… 5Not in passionate desires like those of the nations who don’t know God!  
  
6Nobody should overstep the limits or take advantage of his brother in this matter, for the Lord is the avenger in all of such things, just as we warned you before and explained completely…  
  
7God didn’t call us to uncleanness, but to holiness!  
  
8So, those of you who [may choose to] disregard this [warning] aren’t disregarding a man, but The God who put His Holy Breath in you.  
  
  
9Yet, when it comes to the matter of brotherly love, there’s no need for us to write you, because God has taught you to love each other, 10and you’re showing this to all the brothers throughout Macedonia...  
  
Nevertheless, we’re now urging you brothers to become even better at it!  
  
  
11Also:  
  
Pledge yourselves to living quietly, to minding your own business, and to working for a living (just as we’ve instructed you to do), 12so that you’ll always be acting in an appropriate way towards those on the outside, and so that you won’t ever be in need of anything.  
  
  
13Brothers, we want you to understand the situation of those who are sleeping [in death], so you aren’t saddened like those who don’t have any hope.  
  
14For if we believe that Jesus died and was resurrected, we must also believe that The God will (through Jesus) lead back those who’ve fallen asleep.  
  
15Understand that what we’re saying to you is the word of the Lord… That those who are still living at the appearance of the Lord will definitely not go ahead of those who’ve fallen asleep.  
  
16Because the Lord himself will come down from the sky and give the command in the voice of the highest messenger [of God] and with God’s trumpet...  
  
Then those who’ve died in the Anointed One will be the first to be resurrected.  
  
17And after that, the living (those of us who are still left at that time) will be snatched into the clouds along with them for a meeting with the Lord in the air…  
  
And thereafter, we’ll always be with the Lord.  
  
18Keep comforting each other with these words!