



# hope and holiness

a study in  
1 Thessalonians

## Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12.
2. What is the overall purpose of this larger section? What does 4:1-2 say?
3. As we move into the second half of this section (starting in v.9), what is the theme?
4. Steve mentioned on Sunday that the commands in the Bible never come first – they always come in response to what God has done for us. How does the command to love follow that pattern? What have we learned about God and what He has done for us in the first three chapters of 1 Thessalonians? Why should that make us respond by loving each other? Read over chapter 1 and look for teaching on our identity in Christ.
5. Paul has high praise for the church in Thessalonica when it comes to love. How do you think he would speak to our church? What would it look like for us to love each other more and more?
6. In verse 11, we are told three commands that give example of how we can love each other more and more. What are the three commands?
7. What are these commands talking about? What do they mean? What do they not mean? How do they help us love our brothers and sisters in Christ more and more?
8. On Sunday, Steve talked about how it's our business as brothers and sisters in Christ to support each other spiritually and physically. What does that mean? How does leading a quiet life, minding our own business, and working with our hands help with that?
9. Following these commands, what are some specific ways you can grow in your love for your brothers and sisters?
10. The beginning of verse 12 has another reason we should make it our ambition to lead a quiet life, mind our own business, and work with our hands. What is it? What does this mean? What does it not mean?
11. What are some examples of how you can better represent Christ among those outside the family of faith in these ways?