

SERMON HANDOUT for February 19, 2023



*An Authentic Life!*  
**An Authentic Walk**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 NKJV  
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**INTRODUCTION**

1 Thessalonians 4 begins the central thrust of Paul's message.

Continue to please God in daily lives:

- Avoid sexual sin
- Love one another
- Live as good citizens in a secular world
- Encourage them to WALK WITH INTEGRITY

**Integrity** - wholeness; uprightness; honesty or soundness of moral principle and character, an undivided or unbroken completeness or totality with nothing wanting.

***Our witness, even in the everyday events of our lives, makes a difference in others' lives!***

**AN AUTHENTIC WALK:**

**1) CONSCIOUSLY COMMITS TO \_\_\_\_\_ GOD** - 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2 NKJV

**An Authentic walk** is consciously committed to please God.

- Simply one step: **Obey God's Word!**
- Romans 1:19-20 NKJV

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**2) CONCENTRATES ON \_\_\_\_\_** - 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 NKJV

When a person becomes a Christian, he usually undergoes some radical life changes, especially if he has had an immoral background.

- First steps of spiritual growth and self-denial gets rid of the **large, obvious sins**.
- But sad to say, many believers stop there.
- They don't go on to eliminate the little sins that clutter the landscape of their lives.

"Sanctification" (Greek, *hagiasmos*) - means holiness, consecration, dedicated to God.

"Abstain" (Greek, *apecho*) - means to stay away from, to distance ourselves from it.

**Abstain** or distance ourselves from one main thing that affects everything in our lives.

**SEXUAL IMMORALITY:**

- ✚ 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 NKJV
- ✚ 1 Thessalonians 4:4 NKJV
- ✚ Romans 6:19 NKJV
- ✚ 1 Thessalonians 4:6 NKJV
- ✚ 1 Thessalonians 4:6 NLT
- ✚ Proverbs 6:32-33 NKJV

**An Authentic Walk concentrates on consecration for his good and God’s Glory!**

- ✚ 1 Thessalonians 4:7 NKJV

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**3) CONSISTENTLY DISPLAYS COMPASSIONATE \_\_\_\_\_ - 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 NKJV**

Charles Haddon Spurgeon about Integrity:

*Nothing reflects so much honor on a workman as a trial of his work and its endurance of it. So it is with God. It honors Him when His saints preserve their integrity.*

**Integrity motivated by the Love of God for each other!**

- Paul not concerned, because it was what they were doing.
- But Paul urged them to **“Increase...”**

**Goals for Increase:**

- **Practice Co-operation** (live quietly) ..... *(lead a quiet life)*
- **Pay Attention to What Yours** ..... *(mind your business)*
- **Provide For Your Needs** ..... *(work with your hands)*
- **Promote Integrity in the Secular World** ..... *(walk properly toward those outside)*
- **Produce Provision for Yourself** ..... *(that you may lack nothing!)*

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