***Lesson Fifteen***

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-8**

**A Call To Personal Purity**

**1.** Paul begins the final section of this letter with the word ***finally*** (*loipon*—#3063). We also find his use of this term in 2 Cor. 13:11, Eph. 6:10, Phil. 3:1 & 4:8, and 2 Thess. 3:1. What does this word mean as Paul uses it in these passages?

**2.** Biblical scholars point out that the grammar in v. 1 is broken and irregular, making a clear translation difficult. What do the terms ***request*** (*erōtaō—*#2065) and ***exhort*** (*parakaleō*—#3870) mean? What is Paul’s point in v. 1?

**3.** Twice in v. 1 Paul refers to the need for Christians to ***walk and please God***. What does the word ***walk*** (*peripateō*—#4043) mean? What does Paul’s use of the term ***walk*** teach us about living the Christian life?

**4.** In v. 2 Paul refers to ***commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus***. The word translated ***commandments*** (*paraggelia*—#3852) is not the usual word for ***commandments*** (*entolē*—#1785*)* and is only used four other times in the New Testament. What does this word mean and what is Paul saying by his use of this word?

**5.** In v. 3 Paul explicitly states, ***for this is the will of God, your sanctification***. What is the definition of ***sanctification*** (*hagiosmos*—#38)?

**6.** There are 3 types of sanctification, corresponding to events **past, present and future**. Define each.

 **a. positional sanctification**

 **b. progressive sanctification**

 **c. ultimate sanctification**

**7.** Of all the subjects that Paul could instruct the Thessalonians on regarding their personal sanctification, he chooses to address the subject of ***sexual immorality*** (*porneia*—#4202). What does the term ***sexual immorality*** encompass? In light of the time in which this letter was written, why does Paul choose this subject to address with the Thessalonians?

**8.** The statement in v. 6 poses an interpretive problem. When Paul instructs that ***no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter***, is he referring specifically to the subject of ***sexual immorality*** or is he referring to the subject of personal corruption and fraud, which were also rampant in ancient societies? Explain.

**9.** What is the warning in v. 6 for those who disobey Paul’s instruction here?

**10.** In v. 7-8 Paul closes this section of instruction with a solemn statement to those who fail to heed his instruction in this passage. What is Paul saying in v. 7-8?