1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 ESVUK

¹ Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. ² For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honour, ⁵ not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷ For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. ⁸ Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

God's blueprint for authentic life Living with distinction 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Introduction 1. The command for sexual purity 2. The incentives for sexual purity 3. The 'primacy' of sexual purity

Questions for discussion and reflection:

- How does what Paul has to say here encourage and challenge us to holy living?
- Are there any specific points that we need to act on?
- Why should we bother acting?

Conclusion

Next week: Loving with distinction, 1 Thessalonians 4:9–12, William Taylor