

# 1 THESSALONIANS

## 4:1-8

CALVARY  
nexus

12.1.24

### THESIS:

In Eden, Adam and Eve experienced unity with God and one another; and a pure love unadulterated by sin. When they rebelled against God, they and all their offspring (including you and I) now have a sin nature (the flesh) that is an obstacle to experiencing pure love. And humanity is searching for that pure love to experience true contentment. But, it is hard to be pure. Sexual temptation is seductive, access is everywhere, and there is little cultural incentive towards purity. Yet, today, we discover a way to redeem this dilemma and experience pure love.



# 1<sup>ST</sup> THESSALONIANS

FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITHFUL

### INTRODUCTION:

Share with your group what you did over Thanksgiving. What were some of your favorite moments? What are you thankful for this year?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Q1. How might you describe the sexual ethic of the culture where you live?
- Q2. In what ways might experiencing pure love be beautiful and super-attractive?
- Q3. How might sexual impurity (sin) be an obstacle to experiencing pure love?
- Q4. Read the section "God's Way" in the teaching notes. What do you find interesting, noteworthy or confusing?

### LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR:

Discipling Idea:

**How can making disciples be likened to helping people discover pure love, and true contentment?**

- How have you loved your neighbors inside the group this week?
- How have you loved your neighbors outside of your group this week?

### PRAISE AND PRAYER:

1. Praise God for his example of pure love
2. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in you to help display selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love to others this week.
3. Praise God for Christ's forgiveness and that we are now a new creation in Christ.
4. Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you when you are faced with temptations.