

WEEK 7- WHAT GOD EXPECTS

1 Thessalonians 4:1-2

1. PLEASING GOD MEANS TOTAL SURRENDER
2. PLEASING GOD REQUIRES A TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY
3. PLEASING GOD IS ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH JESUS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of the teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. This week's teaching was about what God expects from us. Have you ever had an authority in your life (boss, teacher, parent, etc.) who did NOT provide clear expectations for you? How did the lack of clarity impact you?
3. Before hearing Sunday's teaching, what came to your mind when you thought about how to please God? Has your perspective changed in any way after hearing what 1 Thess. 4:1-2 has to say on the topic?
4. The first main idea this week was that "Pleasing God Means Total Surrender". Some things are naturally easier for us to surrender to God than others. What is relatively easy for you to give to God? What is more difficult for you to give to God?
5. What area of your life have you told God that He can't have?
6. The second main idea this week was that "Pleasing God Requires a Transfer of Authority". Basically, you can have control of your life or you can please God but you can't do both at the same time. Can you describe a time when you were particularly challenged by something you heard or read from God's word? How do you handle it when you are challenged in this way?
7. All the people who God used that we read about in the Bible were called to do something that didn't make sense on the front end (Noah, Abraham, Moses, Rahab, Ruth, David, Jonah, Peter, etc.). Can you think of a time in your life when you knew God was calling you to do something but it didn't "make sense" or "feel right" to you? How did you respond to that situation and what was the result? (Bonus: How do you know when God is "calling" you to do something?)
8. The final idea this week was that "Pleasing God is only Possible through Jesus". What do you think this means? Why is putting your trust in Jesus the essential first step in pleasing God?