

# D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **September 5, 2021** Family Theme | **While We Wait** Study Text | **1 Thessalonians 4:1 — 5:11**

**Objective:** Family members choose to live in ways that please God, view death differently than the world, and remain ready for Christ's return.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** This Scripture was written within 20 years or so after the resurrection of Christ (AD 50-51) probably during Paul's 18-month stay in Corinth (Acts 18). Paul and his companions continued to take the gospel to the Gentiles, plant churches in various cities, and teach believers to obey what Christ commanded.

**Bible Basics:** Work with family members to memorize Deuteronomy 6:4-6 this week.

## Read the Word: 1 Thessalonians 4:1 — 5:11

### Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about how followers of Christ are to view things differently than many in our culture do. This includes how we view sexuality, relationships with others, work ethic, death, and remaining ready for Christ's return.



#### **Key Truth: Practicing Sexual Purity, Brotherly Love, and Productive Living Pleases God (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12)**

Paul's instructions here covered how to live in a way that pleases God. For one thing, it is God's will for His people to be sexually pure, not marred by sexual immorality. Another way we please God is by showing brotherly love to those around us, and especially to other believers. God is also pleased when believers practice productive lifestyles, minding their own business and supporting themselves and their families.



#### **Key Truth: Believers Have Hope, Even in Grief (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)**

The gospel changes how we react to life, and to death. Paul wanted believers to understand what had become of other believers who had died or fallen asleep. Believers who have died have entered into the Lord's presence and enjoy Him in ways those of us who are still alive can only imagine. Yet the Thessalonians feared that their dead loved ones might somehow miss the Lord's return. Paul put their fears to rest. Christ will return visibly, publicly, and in great triumph. The dead in Christ will be raised and meet Him first. Then those still alive at Christ's return will join them, and nothing will ever again separate them.



#### **Key Truth: God's People Are to Remain Spiritually Alert and Ready for Christ's Return (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)**

Paul expected the Thessalonians *not* to be taken by surprise by Christ's return. He expected them to be ready, living as people who belonged in the daylight. For such people, Christ's return will be glorious. Those who belong to the darkness will find it devastating, like a thief striking without warning. We do not have to know the timing of Christ's return to live in the sure hope and expectation of it. We should endeavor to live in such a way that we would not be embarrassed if He returned tomorrow. We should also try to build lives that will stand the test of time if He does not return for another two thousand years.

# Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- Why should we want to live in ways that please God?
- How should we be different from the world around us in the area of sexuality?
- What are some ways we can demonstrate love for those around us?
- Why is it important for Christians to work hard at what we do and provide for ourselves and our families?
- Why can Christians view death differently than those who don't know Christ do?
- Why is Christ's return something to look forward to for the believer?
- What would change in your life if you lived each day as if Christ was coming that day?
- **For Elementary:** What are some lies Satan tries to get you to believe about living a holy life?
- **For Elementary:** What are some truths from God's Word that you can use to counter his lies?
- **For Elementary:** Why is it important to live your life in ways that please God?

## Everyday Extras

What pleases schoolteachers? Make a list with your children of behaviors and attitudes that would make their schoolteachers happy. Talk about the benefits of having happy teachers. Choose one item from your list and put it into practice this week. Challenge your children to go over and beyond in that area. Pray together for your child's teachers and send them each a note to say so — maybe with a cupcake or candy bar attached.

We also know how to please God. He tells us in His Word. Your family could make another list of some of the instructions in 1 Thessalonians 4 and 5. Be intentional about pleasing Him this week too!

## Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned about a man named Saul who did not like Jesus. Jesus blinded Saul and asked him why he was hurting the people who followed Him. God sent a man named Ananias to heal Saul from his blindness. When Saul was able to see again, He knew Jesus was real and chose to follow Him. **I Can Follow Jesus** too.