



# The Will of God: Your Sanctification

1Thess. 3:11-4:8

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## The Will of God: Your Sanctification

**The Main Point:** Christians should seek to please God by pursuing sexual self-control and purity.

### Transitional Prayer

- Increase in love
- Establish the Thessalonians in holiness
  - The Lord Jesus is coming

### A Life Pleasing to God

- “as you received” – how one ought to walk and please God
  - Do so “more and more”
- Three Exhortations | The will of God—your sanctification
  - Separate from *porneia*

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## The Will of God: Your Sanctification

- Control your body in holiness and honor
  - Unlike godless Gentiles
- Don't wrong your brother in sexual sin
- Three Reasons
  - The avenging Lord
  - The call of God
  - The given Spirit

### Pleasing God with our Sexual Purity

- *Porneia* and the Christian sexual ethic
  - One man, one woman, one lifetime
    - Heterosexual, monogamous, covenantal, enduring

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## The Will of God: Your Sanctification

- Having sexual relations with one's spouse is the normal, biblical expectation for the purposes of procreation and sexual fulfillment.
  - Within marriage, all non-degrading, consensual sexual acts within marriage are morally permissible, though not all are equally helpful in cultivating intimacy.
- Sexual relations outside of marriage are considered either adulterous (if one is married) fornication (if one isn't) or general *porneia*, all of which are sinful.

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