

**HE'S COMING BACK – PART IV**  
**“Our Spiritual Journey”**  
**1 Thessalonians 3:11 - 4:12**

The goal of every believer is to please God by living according to his word. All disciples of Christ are going through a process of spiritual development that lasts for the duration of one's life. There are challenges that every believer faces in growing spiritually such as overcoming bad habits, temptations, pressure from the world, etc. The challenges the Thessalonians faced are like the ones we face today.

**#1. OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TAKES US TO \_\_\_\_\_,**  
**3:11-13**

- A. Paul prays that God would let us come to you
- B. Paul prays for God to embellish your love for people
- C. Paul prays for God to strengthen your hearts
- D. Paul prays for God to bring us to the final state

**Holiness** is the condition we find ourselves in at the end of the age when Jesus returns

**#2. OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY REQUIRES \_\_\_\_\_ GOD, 4:1-2**

- A. This is the goal for every believer
- B. This instruction was given by the authority of Christ
- C. This instruction should be followed – it's not optional

**#3. OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY REQUIRES \_\_\_\_\_, 4:3**

**The definition:** sanctification is the life-long process of being separated from sin to become more Christlike.

Sanctification is God's will for all believers

©Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD, September 4, 2022

**#4. OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY REQUIRES OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN OUR SANCTIFICATION, 4:3-6, 9-12**

Challenge #1. Avoiding sexual immorality (*porneia*) –  
Being \_\_\_\_\_, v. 3

Challenge #2. Controlling our \_\_\_\_\_, vv. 4-5

Challenge #3. Being \_\_\_\_\_ in marriage, \_\_\_\_\_  
in singleness, v. 6

Challenge #4. Excelling in \_\_\_\_\_, vv. 9-10

Challenge #5. Wining the respect of outsiders by our \_\_\_\_\_,  
vv. 11-12

**#5. OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY REQUIRES \_\_\_\_\_ TO**  
**GOD, 4:6-8**

- A. We answer to God on judgment day, 2 Cor 5:10
- B. We also face God's judgment in this life
- C. We are called to be holy (sanctified)
- D. We reject this instruction we reject God
- E. We have the HS to empower our sanctification

**NOTES:**

ANSWERS: Perfection, Pleasing, Sanctification, Sexually Pure, Passions, Faithful, Celibate, Love, Lifestyle, Accountability.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. What are some challenges that believers face in their sanctification today?
- #2. What was the cultural situation at Thessalonica regarding their sexual mores?
- #3. If you are one of the Thessalonians and you heard Paul's teaching on sexual purity what would you think?
- #4. What is the difference between the condition of holiness / sanctification rather than the process of sanctification?
- #5. What role does the word of God play in our sanctification?
- #6. What are the challenges believers face in our culture regarding sexual issues?
- #7. In what ways does our culture feed our passions?
- #8. Why is it important to win the respect of outsiders by the way we live?
- #9. Why does Paul seemingly use harsh language about their sanctification in vv. 6-8?
- #10. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

# *Welcome*

*to*

# *Hillcrest Church!*

*Love, Acceptance &  
Forgiveness!*

*They tell us how you turned to God from idols to  
serve the living and true God, and  
to wait for his Son from heaven*

*I Thessalonians 1:9-10*

*September 4, 2022*

*Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TODAY SEPTEMBER 4TH

Pastor Bruce will be continuing his teaching in 1 Thessalonians and we welcome Dave Zaragoza as our guest worship leader.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> – WORK DAY, 9AM – 12PM

It's time for our fall cleaning. We can use all the help we can get. Coffee and donuts will be available and lunch will be served at noon. Cleaning the kitchen, moving items to the lower level, placing things in the storage shed and more are some of the things that we need to accomplish.

### ONLINE GATHERINGS

Tuesday Prayer at 7:00pm, Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm  
Go to the online meeting room on our website  
(hillcrestRoseville.com) to access the gathering.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com).

### FACILITY UPGRADES – THE KITCHEN & UPSTAIRS CHILDREN'S AREA

We will be replacing the kitchen sink, base cabinets, counter tops and apply a fresh coat of paint in the next few weeks. It will look great! Additionally, the upper children's area is being reworked and will also look fantastic. If you want to contribute money to that effort write "building fund" in the memo of your check.

### HALLOWEEN OUTREACH

We are looking ahead to our outreach October 31. If you would like to help in any capacity please sign up at the offering station or talk to Melissa.

From Pastor Charles acknowledging receipt of the money we raised for his ministry in Uganda

9/1/2022

Hello my very beloved brother Pastor Bruce,

I send my love and greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank you very much for the funds \$500 donated by an individual for feeding of children and \$ 6,176.60.

I have checked on my account and the funds are deposited the amount is

Twenty four million seven hundred ninety nine thousand seven hundred fifty two shillings but here fifty two Uganda shillings (24,799,752/-) and the bank charges is

28,750/=

We are going to begin the foundation of the dormitory for the school where children will be sleeping and we shall keep you informed of how the work is going, and pictures, updates and we shall let you know of any developments,

Thank you for the prayers.

Send my greetings and appreciation to the family members and Hillcrest Church

God bless you abundantly

With love

Charles