



What would it take to
“please God”?

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Love

Paul's First Letter to Thessalonica

The Word on Pleasing God ...

I know that the LORD is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods. The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.

Psalm 135:5-6 NIV

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The Word on Pleasing God ...

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11: 6 NIV

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The Word on Pleasing God ...

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Live as children of light and find out what pleases the Lord.

Ephesians 5:1-2, 8, 10 NIV

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The Word on Pleasing God ...

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior ... I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

1 Timothy 2:1-3, 8 NIV

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The Word on Pleasing God ...

To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness ...

Ecclesiastes 2:26 NIV

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 NIV

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The Word ...

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 (NIV)

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The Word ...

Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of

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The Word ...

you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy

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The Word ...

life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all the brothers throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers, to do so more and more.

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The Word ...

Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 (NIV)

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The Verdict ...

What then, pleases God?

“For God did not call us to be impure,
but to live holy lives.”

1 Thessalonians 4:7

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Paul's First Letter to Thessalonica

The Verdict ...

What then, pleases God?

“... to be sanctified.” (4:3)

- > Greek word *hagiazō*
- > means to be set apart or separate
- > positional: God’s call, your embrace
- > progressive: God’s leading, your following

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Living Holy Lives ...

LOVE: *Sees the good, the potential, the hope, it protects, it forgives*

FEAR: *Places God 1st, respect, reverence and awe of who God is and who we aren't*

SERVE: *available to give, to go last, to help, to sacrifice*

SURRENDER: *giving up your rights, your needs, your security, your fears, your pain, your relationships and your pride*

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Paul's First Letter to Thessalonica

An open book with a scroll in the foreground. The book is open, showing two pages of text. The scroll is unrolled and lies across the bottom right corner of the image. The background is a warm, yellowish-gold color.

Compelling Love

Paul's First Letter to Thessalonica