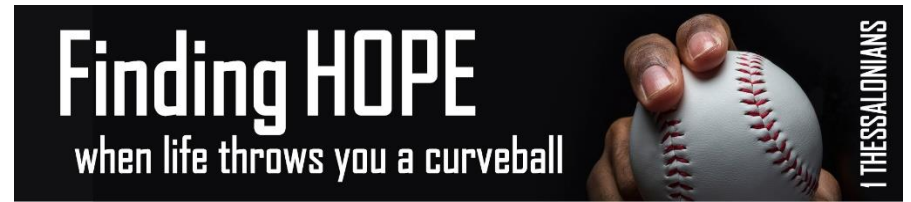


LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK: From Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016 (page 3)

TAKING IT HOME

1. Sanctification is the process of becoming more like Jesus, and it surely doesn't happen overnight. Take a few moments to share how God is/has been sanctifying you through His Spirit and your faith. Encourage other Life Group members by sharing how you see the Holy Spirit at work in their lives.

2. Loving others can be extremely difficult at times. Is there someone in your life who is difficult to love? What one change you can make this week to love this person better?



SUNDAY MESSAGE NOTES Oct. 2, 2016

Series: "Finding Hope When Life Throws You a Curveball" 1 Thess. 4:1-12

Message #5: "Choosing Control When You Want To Lose Control"

By Nat Crawford

Christians should walk in holiness. (1 Thess. 4:3-5)

If you struggle with walking in holiness, then...

- Confess your **sin** to God.
- Stop making **excuses**.
- Get **disciplined**.
- Tap into the power of the **Holy Spirit**.
- Rest in **God's grace**.

Christians should walk in love. (1 Thess. 4:9-10)

- This love is reflected in how we **speak** to one another.
- This love is reflected in how we **care** for each other.

Christians should walk in integrity. (1 Thess. 4:11-12)

QUICK REVIEW

Nat gave us three ways to “walk” that will help us maintain control of our hearts and desires when life throws us curveballs. What are they? Which one stood out the most to you?

MY STORY

1. Describe a time when things didn't go your way.
How did you react?

2. Have you ever been affirmed by someone else?
Describe your experience to your Life Group.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 and answer the questions below.
 - What words or phrases jumped out at you as you read? Which ones made you uncomfortable?
 - In the first part of verse 3, Paul tells us that the will of God is for us to be sanctified, or set apart for Him. Then, in 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, he clarifies how this is done in a believer. Look up these verses together. What are the two elements that he says God uses to sanctify us as believers?
 - How does the work of the Holy Spirit and faith help us live a life set apart for the Lord when it comes to sexual purity?

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 and answer the questions below.
 - In verses 9-10, Paul emphasizes loving other Christians. Many Christians like to stop here, and don't take that love outside of their faith circles. What kinds of problems does this cause?
 - In what ways would “living quietly” and “attending to their own business” (4:11) help the Thessalonians live their lives as a testimony to others? Describe what this looks like in today's culture.