Make it Personal

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Pastor Kevin Cunningham **First Baptist Church**
Series: Standing Firm. Stepping Out. **11/17/2024**

Stand Firm in Righteous Living

Introduction

Last week:
- How to Stand Firm in the Midst of Suffering

This week:
- How to Stand Firm in Everyday Life and Temptation

Paul moves from
- Apostolic Reflections

to
- Apostolic Instructions

1 Thessalonians 3:11–13 (NIV)

11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the
way for us to come to you. 12 May the Lord make your love increase and
overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. 13
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.

I. Walk in Holiness (4:1-8)

[1] As for other matters, brothers and sisters, 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. [2] For you
know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.
[3] It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid
sexual immorality; [4] that each of you should learn to control your own
body in a way that is holy and honorable, [5] not in passionate lust like the
pagans, who do not know God; [6] and that in this matter no one should
wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all
those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. [7]
For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. [8] Therefore,
anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but
God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

II. Walk in Love (4:9-10)

[9] Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you,
for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. [10] And in
fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge
you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more,

III. Walk in Integrity (4:11-12)

[11] and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind
your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, [12] so
that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will
not be dependent on anybody.