"Taking Care of Business"

Sunday, June 27, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

BIG IDEA: People are our "business".

"...love one another...behave properly in the presence of outsiders."

1 Thessalonians 4:9, 12 (CSB)

- Take care how we <u>love</u> one another. (v9, 10)
 - o Such love originates with God.
 - o Such love facilitates our reputation.
 - Such love <u>regenerates</u> over <u>time</u>.
- Take care how we live before one another. (v11, 12)
 - o Be guiet, not bombastic.
 - Be <u>hands-off</u>, not a <u>busybody</u>.
 - o Be industrious, not idle.
 - Be <u>scrupulous</u>, not <u>unscrupulous</u>.
 - o Be independent, not dependent.

BIG IDEA: People are our "business".

READ: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

THINK: Reflect on our relationships with one another and unbelievers, then ask yourself these questions: How has God taught you about LOVE? What does it mean to love "even more"? How do you imagine the Thessalonians felt when urged to love more? What does my work ethic say about me? About my commitment to my family? My commitment to Christ? My commitment to His Church? How does a lifestyle that bears witness to God affect relationships? Time priorities? Work ethic? My witness to those "outside" the Church? What does this passage have to do with "living in light of Christ's return"?

DO: Look for one new person you can express "family love" to this week. Evaluate where you are on the INDEPENDENT vs DEPENDENT spectrum and make any adjustments necessary to comply with the instructions from God's Word in this passage.