

Be holy, because He is holy – 1 Peter 1:16, Isaiah 6, Romans 7 & 8

Importance of holiness today...

We are called to be holy, because God is holy.

(ref: 1 Peter 1:16)

What is holiness?

To be, “set-apart”

What does it mean when we say that God is Holy?

Because of God’s perfection, purity and character...

God cannot be *compared to* the commonality, uncleanliness, and evil in creation.

How is this significant to us?

Isaiah Ch6

v. 3, “Holy, Holy, Holy” -

v. 5, “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

To be with God, we must be set-apart from the world like He is.

What does God’s holiness require of us?

Sinless perfection

OT – Exodus 20 – Law

NT – Mt 5:21-22 – Intensification of the requirement

It is impossible to satisfy this requirement on our own.

How can I be Holy?

God must make the first move – Isaiah 6:6

1) Cross

Jn 3:16 – the Father sent His Son b/c He loved us

Jn 10:17-18 – the Son willingly laid down His life

Heb 9:22 – there can be no forgiveness w/o blood shed

Heb 10:10 – the Son was our substitutionary sacrifice

Isa 53:10-11 – the death of the Son satisfied the wrath of the Father

1 Cor 15:4 – on the third day the Son came back to life again!

1 Cor 15:55 – and defeated death on the cross!

Jn 1:12 – if you believe Jesus did this for you,

you can become a child of God.

2) Holy Spirit

Romans 7 – we are incapable of taking away our sin

Romans 8 – we are met with the power of the Holy Spirit

How can I walk by the Spirit?

1) Prepare – to receive (what God has prepared for you)

2) Pray – to confess (any sins that come to mind)

3) Read – till you are satisfied

(do not stop until you hear something from Him)

4) Respond – in faith (and deepen your trust in Him)

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What is holiness? What does it mean when we say that God is holy?
- 2) How does God's holiness relate to us? What does God's holiness require of us? What must we do to become holy? Is this something we can do on our own?
- 3) How can I be holy? How does God make a way for this to be possible?
- 4) How can I walk by the Spirit?

Application Questions:

- 1) Why is holiness today so important in our current culture?
- 2) How is my holiness something I still need to figure out even after becoming a believer? In other words, am I fully aware of the full extent of my sins right now? Has there ever been a time in my life where I was perfectly holy? Why would God ask us to be perfect when it might be impossible for us to reach his requirement of holiness on our own?
- 3) How does our understanding of holiness lead us to the cross?
- 4) How does our understanding of sin cause us to embrace the Holy Spirit?
- 5) How do you walk by the Spirit? Take some time to do that today, and remember there is a reason why He is called the 'Holy' Spirit.