



Walking in Holiness
Lesson 1: What is Holiness?

1. Introduction to holiness

Hebrews 7:26

He is holy and separate from sinners.

Jesus is our example. He is separate from sin. We should also live separate from sin.

2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1 – New Living Translation

2 Corinthians 6:14 *Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness?*

2 Corinthians 6:15 *What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever?*

2 Corinthians 6:16 *And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be My people."*

2 Corinthians 6:17 *Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you.*

2 Corinthians 6:18 *And I will be your Father, and you will be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty. "*

2 Corinthians 7:1 *Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.*

2 Corinthians 7:1 – New International Version

Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

The Bible says a lot about holiness.

People do not get excited about the subject of holiness. But it is important. There are thousands of references in the Bible to it.

For example, think about God's Spirit.

God could have called His Spirit anything. How many different words could He have used to describe His Spirit?

He could have used the words big, mighty, or wise. However, He used the word "Holy".

The Word is called the Holy Word.

God's prophets are called His Holy prophets.

The holy prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit to speak holy words.

2 Corinthians 7:1 – New Living Translation

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

This is something we are expected to do.

2. Sanctification

Your conduct (your works) is not what makes you acceptable to God. The best that you can do will never make you righteous.

However, just because you have been made a child of God, you can still live your life unlike a child of God.

You have been made righteous, but you don't have to walk righteously.

We need to learn how to walk out our righteousness and live it every day.

We need to allow what is _____ to dominate the _____

Romans 3:26

The moment you were saved you were justified.

Justified:

- _____
- When you received Jesus Christ as your Savior, God declared you righteous.
- He transferred the perfect, sinless record of Jesus to you! – This is called being justified or justification.

When God declared you righteous, He immediately began a process of making you more like Jesus.

God peels away our desire for sin, renews our minds, and changes our lives.

This process is called _____

This process does not end until we meet Jesus face to face.

3. The difference between justification and sanctification.

- Justification is being declared righteous. Sanctification is being made into the image of Jesus.
- Justification is our _____ before God. Sanctification is our _____

You do not practice justification. It happened to you when you got saved.

- Justification is Jesus' work for us. Sanctification is Jesus' work within us.
- Justification is immediate. Sanctification is a process.

You can never be more justified than you are the day you got saved. Justification is not an act or a series of acts.

The weakest believer and the strongest believer are equally justified. There are no levels or degrees.

4. Holiness is extremely important.

You have been made righteous by the blood of Jesus. But this class is going to teach us about our conduct – walking it out practically in life.

2 Corinthians 7:1 – New Living Translation

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

We are not “of” the world. But we are “in” the world.

There are a lot of contaminating things in the world. We do not have to allow ourselves to become contaminated in body or spirit – outside and inside.

Holiness is extremely important and is directly connected to being able to walk by faith, being, led by the Spirit, and the power of God in our lives.

Many believers have little understanding about holiness or how to live holy.

How can you know that you are receiving more revelation about holiness? Answer: You begin to get excited about living right!

5. Holiness is not comparing yourself to others.

Isaiah 65:1, 2

Isaiah 65:5

God is saying, “These people irritate Me.”

Why? – Because the people thought they had holiness all figured out. They were saying, “We are holy and other people are not.”

They thought holiness was a comparative thing with other people. This results in one feeling superior to another, because in their mind, they are holier than others.

That is not holiness.

There are certain groups that profess to be holier than other groups. What it usually comes down to is their particular code: conduct code, dress code, operation code, etc.

Certain groups isolate themselves and form their own little world. They have a feeling of superiority.

Eventually they think they are the only ones making it.

If you believe that you must do certain things to be saved, you are saying – “The blood is not enough.”

If you are adding your works to the blood – you are wrong.

Luke 18:9

Who are we supposed to trust in God for our righteousness, not ourselves.

If we stood where someone else fell or we resisted sin where someone else did not, it is nothing to feel superior about.

If you were able to stand where someone else fell it is because of the grace of God.

How about these statements and attitudes?

- “I am blessed because I have more faith than you.”
- “I have my healing and my prosperity because I have more Word than you.”

Luke 18:10, 11

He was praying, but not to God! He was praying by himself.

This is not holiness! God did not receive this prayer or _____

This same spirit is alive today.

We know we are not supposed to judge, but people are doing it all the time.

It comes from a spirit of superiority.

Sometimes we are judgmental of things that we consider “terrible” sins.

When you come down hard on somebody for one thing, you are acting like you do not have nay problems.

6. The truth is – You can be free from everything that defiles.

You can be completely free.

Was Jesus bound by any sin? – No

Can you live like Jesus lived? Can you have a relationship with the Father like Jesus did? Can you have a prayer life like Jesus had? Can you please the Father every day like Jesus did?

Answer – Yes you can!

1 John 2:6

How should you walk? – _____

It is possible. Everything Jesus did, He did it as a man, not as God.

Jesus did not walk free from sin because He was God.

If He lived a sinless life because He was God, He could not have been our example for us to follow.

“I can’t be expected to live like Jesus.” – Not only are you expected to, but you are also commanded to.

1 John 2:6

Can we walk like Jesus? Pray like Jesus? Have faith like Jesus?

Yes, we can. That is holiness.

Holiness is Christlikeness. _____

Ephesians 2:10

A false thing teaching is prevalent in churches today. That is a belief that you cannot help sinning. A belief that you are going to sin every day.

“It was just too big. It was just too difficult. I tried, but I couldn’t help it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13

People say, “See. God will not put on you any more than you can take.”

However, that is not the meaning of this verse. It means – No temptation is going to come your way that is too big for you to handle. He will not allow it. He is faithful.

This means – if something shows up on your doorstep you can resist it. You have the ability to say “no”. You can no. You do not have to give in – never!

Every time we have sinned, it was our fault!

God’s Spirit is now in us. _____

2 Corinthians 5:17

That new nature is not to sin. We now have a nature that desires to please God.

However, we still have our flesh. If we give in to it, we will sin.

If it was true that a believer cannot help sinning, God would not expect you to repent.

Why would God require repentance if He knew you couldn't "help it"? Why would God hold you responsible for something you are programmed to keep doing?

You can always resist. You can always say "no".

You do not have to live as a servant to sin. You can be free. You can live clean. You can be holy.

Jesus lived His entire earthly life as a man and He never sinned.

7. Why does Satan want us to continue living in sin after we are saved?

When Satan tempts you to sin, it is not so that he can just laugh and say, "I got him to sin."

Living in holiness affects your faith. It affects your confidence, your discernment, your wisdom, your ability to hear God voice, and much more.

John 8:28, 29

This was true of Jesus' life.

Satan does not want you to live pure, so that you lack power. An impure life will rob you of the call of God.

Not only must we desire to live holy, but we must also have a _____

Hebrews 1:8, 9