

S.O.S.II

SAINTS  
OBEYING THE  
SPIRIT



STUDY BY RICHARD ELWELL

## Foundational Discipleship Studies

Christ promises abundant life to those who put their faith in him, but many Christians fail to experience what he has promised. The foundational studies of Ultimate Outcomes are designed to help believers experience the freedom of the abundant life in Christ through learning how to avoid Satan's deception and turn and enter into God's blessing. Like all Ultimate Outcome materials, these studies are built on the principle that God is smarter than we are and that in order to improve our lives we need to seek God's perspective and then choose to do things his way.

Sinners Overcoming Self (SOS I) is the first foundational study and looks at human behavior from a scriptural point of view. We all choose to do things that hurt us and others. This study examines why we do what we choose to do and how to uncover and overcome sin in our life. It develops the foundation for living an abundant life in Christ as uncovering deception and following God's path is the only way to contentment, right relationships, right living and eternal life.

Saints Obeying the Spirit (SOS II) is the second study and examines how we connect to God and enter into his blessing. It is only through our relationship to Christ that we experience an abundant and fulfilling life. SOS I should be completed before doing SOS II.

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# ULTIMATE OUTCOMES

WHY IDEAS MATTER.

Ultimate Outcomes is a non-profit organization founded on the fruit of the 30 plus years Pastor Richard Elwell and his wife Marty spent in church ministry, developing studies that would help their congregants discern and apply God's truth. Richard was a firm believer that the outcomes in our lives are a result of what ideas we choose to believe and follow.

After Richard died of a rare liver disease in 2018, Ultimate Outcomes has taken on the mission of sharing the Elwell's insights with all people who desire to live a better life and are willing to look to God for understanding of the way they are to go. To that end it makes available for free download on its website: Bible studies, Sunday school curriculum, and sermon podcasts.

Richard earned a Master of Divinity degree from the International School of Theology and was the founding and senior pastor at University Park Church, San Bernardino, CA for over 30 years. His passion was always to make God's truth understandable and applicable to all who hunger for it. Marty holds a Master's Degree in Teaching Processes from Claremont Graduate University. Her passion has been to train women and provide curriculum for parents who want to raise up their children up in the ways of the Lord.

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# **INTRODUCTION:**

**SAINTS OBEYING THE SPIRIT**

# INTRODUCTION



## SAINTS OBEYING THE SPIRIT

Identifying our old nature and dying to ourselves through Christ, which we focused on in S.O.S. I (Sinners Overcoming Self), is only one half of the S.O.S. journey. The other half of the journey is identifying with the resurrection and coming alive in Christ. We do not become a different person in Christ but, rather, a new person. Not only do we want to escape the corruption of sin but we want to enter into the fullness of blessing God has for us.

Those who have come alive in Christ the Bible calls saints. The title of this series of lessons is S.O.S. II, Saints Obeying the Spirit.

Before starting the S.O.S. II study it is helpful to review the basic principles of S.O.S. I.

### S.O.S I REVIEW

#### • LESSON 1-3

There are two m\_\_\_\_\_ competing for our lives. One master leads us through t\_\_\_\_\_, the other master leads us through d\_\_\_\_\_. Our lives are a r\_\_\_\_\_ of which master we choose to b\_\_\_\_\_ and follow.

We are not our own master. If we don't serve C\_\_\_\_\_, we serve S\_\_\_\_\_, whether unwittingly or not.

#### • CONCEPTS

FOUNDATIONAL LIE BEHIND ALL SIN - p\_\_\_\_\_ sovereignty

LAW OF SLAVERY - N\_\_\_\_ man is his o\_\_\_\_\_ master. All men s\_\_\_\_\_ something.

EQUATION OF SIN - t\_\_\_\_\_ + e\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_\_ = sin

#### CATEGORIES OF TEMPTATION AND SIN

l\_\_\_\_\_ l\_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_

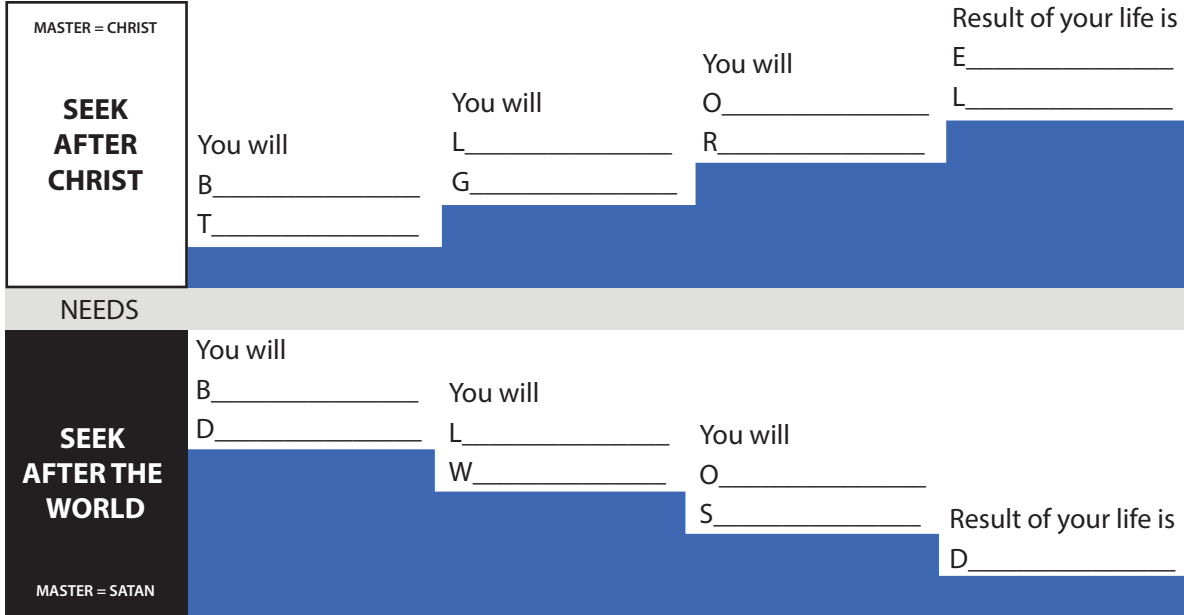
#### CATEGORIES OF BLESSING

p\_\_\_\_\_ g\_\_\_\_\_ h\_\_\_\_\_



# S.O.S I REVIEW CONT.

## • REVIEW THE PROGRESSION OF BELIEF



## • LESSON 4 - THE LAW OF NEEDS

All of our n\_\_\_\_\_ can be met through G\_\_\_\_\_, none of our n\_\_\_\_\_ can be met outside of G\_\_\_\_\_, therefore we must trust G\_\_\_\_\_ to meet our n\_\_\_\_\_. God promises to f\_\_\_\_\_ our desires as we s\_\_\_\_\_ him.

## • LESSON 5-8

Our own evil comes out of our own h\_\_\_\_\_. We need to u\_\_\_\_\_ the darkness in us and e\_\_\_\_\_ it to the light of Christ by c\_\_\_\_\_ our sin and knowing and believing Christ. God f\_\_\_\_\_ and restores us when we come before him in humility and r\_\_\_\_\_.



# 01

## **LESSON ONE:**

**WHAT IS HOLINESS?**

# INTRODUCTION



## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson will focus on what it means to be holy. Consider the following questions:

1. What does it mean to be “not holy”?
2. Why should becoming holy be important to us?

### DEFINITIONS:

**SAINT** - The Greek word for saint is hagioi which means sanctified or holy ones. It comes from the word hagios which means holy.

**SANCTIFICATION** - The word sanctification comes from the same Greek root as saint and refers to the relationship with God into which men enter by faith in Christ. Sanctification also is used to denote the separation of the believer from evil things and ways. The process of being made holy.

**EVIL** - corruption of good, whatever is harmful to God's creation. Something is evil because it hurts us or others.

## PRAYER

- Pray for understanding and insight into what holiness is and the purpose for it.
- Ask for help in seeing what effect holiness should be having in your life.
- Thank God that he has called you to be holy and that holiness is his will for your life.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES



## WHAT IS HOLINESS?

### **2 Corinthians 6:14 7:1**

*Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial [Satan]? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people." (cont. page)*

*Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." 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.*

1. What do the things of God (light, righteousness) have in common with the things of the world (darkness, wickedness)?
2. What does God call us to come out and be?
3. When we separate ourselves from Satan's domain who will receive us?  
  
Into what type of relationship?
4. What are we to purify ourselves from?  
  
What does that refer to?
5. What is the source of our contamination? (Think back to S.O.S. I.)
6. What are we to be perfecting in our lives and why?

#### THE EQUATION OF HOLINESS:

There are two parts to holiness. Holiness means being separate from evil or corruption but it more profoundly means to be connected with God. Our holiness is a consequence of, and by the virtue of, our being connected with or being consecrated to God.

s \_\_\_\_\_ + c \_\_\_\_\_ = holiness

If we are connected to the world, we take on the nature of the world. If we are connected to God we take on the nature of God. Our holiness is by virtue of our connection to God. We cannot be separate from God and maintain his nature.



#### ILLUSTRATION: IRON BAR

If you take an iron bar and put it in the freezer, it will take on the characteristic of cold from the freezer. If you put it into a fire, it becomes red as it takes on the heat of the fire. The iron bar cannot be both hot and cold at the same time. Hot and cold are mutually exclusive properties. You cannot take on the new nature of God if you have been connected to the world and taken on the nature of the world without first separating from the old nature. The two natures are incompatible.

Remember from S.O.S. I that the Bible teaches there are three areas of evil we need to separate from: Satan, the world and the flesh. Separating from which one of these will automatically render the other two powerless? Why?

Which do we usually think of separating ourselves from?

Why?

### REMEMBER:

To be made holy we must separate ourselves from our own evil but the essential ingredient of holiness is being connected to God. The purpose of separating from our evil is to connect to God.



### ILLUSTRATION: A JOURNEY

If your desire were to take a journey from Los Angeles to New York, you would first have to leave Los Angeles. However, arriving in New York is a more essential or profound part of the journey than leaving Los Angeles. Also, remember if you leave Los Angeles but don't head in the right direction, you won't get to New York. In that case the act of leaving would be meaningless.

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE WORLD?

### **Colossians 3:5 8**

*Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourself of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.*

1. What belongs to the earthly nature?
2. What are we to do to the earthly nature?

What does that mean?



## HOW DO WE SEPARATE FROM EVIL?

In this passage, Jesus is addressing the Pharisees, the Jewish religious leaders

### **Matthew 23:25-28**

*"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.*

*"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness."*

1. Why did Jesus condemn the Pharisees?
2. How does this relate to us and our separation from evil?

Sometimes as Christians we believe we are holy because we have removed ourselves from the contamination of the world without being cleansed of our own evil desires. We have removed the temptation part from the Equation of Sin. (temptation + evil desires = sin) If we are separated from the evil outside but not inside, we are like the Pharisees and become self righteous and legalistic. We become arrogant and don't recognize our vulnerability to sin and temptation.



## WHY DOES GOD WANT US TO BE HOLY?

### **2 Timothy 2:20-21**

*In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.*

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 1. When we are made holy who are we useful to?     | Why? |
| 2. When we are not made holy who are we useful to? | Why? |

3. When we have been made holy what are we prepared to do?

4. What purposes are we set aside for?

What does that mean we do?

5. Why does God want us to be holy?

The more perfect something is the better it fulfills its purpose. A well built house will last longer, do a better job of weathering the elements, and will be a more comfortable abode. God wants us to be holy so we will function well in what we were designed to do. When we function well we are able to fulfill his purposes.

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● WHAT VALUE DOES HOLINESS HAVE?

### **1 Timothy 4:8**

*For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*

1. What does godliness have value for?

What does that mean?

2. When does godliness have value?

How does that contrast to physical training?

Physical exercise has some benefit to us now. Holiness not only helps us function well now but, also, has great benefit for us in terms of eternity. On which do most people place more value?

How do you know?



# THINKING IT THROUGH



## THE EQUATION OF HOLINESS

1. What are the two parts to holiness?  
S \_\_\_\_\_ from the world + C \_\_\_\_\_ to God = holiness
2. Why is what we connect ourselves to so important?
3. Why can't we be connected to the world and be holy?



### ILLUSTRATION: JOINING TO EVIL

When a pure mountain stream joins with a polluted creek the stream takes on the pollution of the creek. If we want to be holy, we cannot join ourselves to evil or the world.

4. What are the three areas of evil we need to be separated from?
5. Separating from what evil will render the others powerless?  
  
Why?
6. If we separate from the world and Satan but not from the flesh what happens?
7. Our own evil comes from what source of pollution?

If our hearts are a source of pollution how is purity restored, or in other words how do we separate from our own internal evil?



## THE USEFULNESS OF HOLINESS

The following is a description of how holiness would be useful according to the Progression of Belief (S.O.S. I, Lesson 3). See the introduction to the study for a review of the Progression of Belief.

**IF I AM A SAINT I WILL BELIEVE T\_\_\_\_\_.**

It is USEFUL TO ME because it gives me insight to do what is r\_\_\_\_\_ and will b\_\_\_\_\_ me. It keeps me from going the w\_\_\_\_\_ way and being d\_\_\_\_\_.

It is USEFUL TO OTHERS because I can be a l\_\_\_\_\_. I can show God's t\_\_\_\_\_ to others.

It is USEFUL TO GOD because his truth is held up for the w\_\_\_\_\_ to see. God becomes v\_\_\_\_\_ through me.

**IF I AM A SAINT I WILL LOVE G\_\_\_\_\_.**

It is USEFUL TO ME because I love and will want what is g\_\_\_\_\_ and therefore obey what is g\_\_\_\_\_. I fulfill the greatest commandment to love God with the whole of my being and experience the blessings of that r\_\_\_\_\_.

It is USEFUL TO OTHERS because I learn to love others through l\_\_\_\_\_ God. I will view others as God does and extend his l\_\_\_\_\_ to them.

It is USEFUL TO GOD because in loving God I reflect his g\_\_\_\_\_ and become a conduit of his l\_\_\_\_\_ to others.

**IF I AM A SAINT I WILL OBEY R\_\_\_\_\_.**

It is USEFUL TO ME because I will experience the good r\_\_\_\_\_ of my choices.

It is USEFUL TO OTHERS because my good choices will affect others and society in a p\_\_\_\_\_ way.

It is USEFUL TO GOD because God's plan is shown to w\_\_\_\_\_.

# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## OUR CONNECTION TO CHRIST MAKES US USEFUL

### **John 15:1-6**

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fires and burned.*

1. What causes us to bear fruit?
2. What can the branch bear if it is not connected to the vine?

Why?

Fruitfulness is the product of being connected to God, which is the essential ingredient of holiness. Fruitfulness is our usefulness to God, others and ourselves.

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION

1. Would you describe yourself as pure or polluted water?

Why?

2. What does God see you as?

Why? (Lesson two will focus on this.)

3. What are the sources of your pollution? (Be specific about your own internal evil.)

4. In what areas of your life are you useful to God?

Why?

5. In what areas of your life are you not as useful to God?

Why?



## SELF-EXAMINATION

Ask yourself often the following questions, "Does this action or thought ...."

- "... Connect me to God or to the world?"
- "... Join me to evil or separate me from evil?"
- "... Make me useful to God for good works and noble purposes or useful to Satan for his purposes?"

### PRAYER

Lord, I really see my need to be changed on the inside. Please soften my heart so I want you more. Humble me so I don't think of myself more than others. Work in me so I can reflect your truth, love, and kindness in a world that desperately needs to see it. Make me useful for your purposes.

# 02

## **LESSON TWO:**

**GOD'S PART IN OUR HOLINESS**

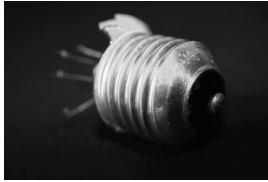
# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

1. What is the EQUATION OF HOLINESS?

S\_\_\_\_\_ from sin + C\_\_\_\_\_ to God = holiness

2. When we are made holy, what are we useful for?



### ILLUSTRATION: BROKEN TOOLS

A tool that is broken isn't useful. It needs to be repaired and restored to be productive.



## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson will look more closely at God's part in our holiness and the next lesson will examine our part in becoming holy.

### DEFINITIONS OF SALVATION:

**JUSTIFICATION** - The work of Christ on the cross which takes away the blame of sin. Christ delivered us from the penalty of sin. (This is the legal remedy for sin, which entails a pardon or commuted sentence.)

**SANCTIFICATION** - The work of the Holy Spirit which makes us holy, sets us apart for holy purposes. The Holy Spirit delivers us from the power of sin. (This is the health remedy for sin, which entails a change of nature.)

## PRAYER

- Pray for help in understanding what it means to be made holy.
- Ask for insight into your own need for holiness and dependence on the Holy Spirit.
- Thank Jesus that he died to make us holy.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES



## WE ARE MADE PERFECT AND ARE BEING MADE HOLY

### **Hebrews 10:14**

*Because by the one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.*

1. According to this verse who has been made perfect?
2. Through what were they made perfect?

"Made perfect" is *tetlaoken* which means a completely finished, perfect work. "Forever" is *dianekas*, which means continuous, uninterrupted, perpetual, endless, eternal.

3. What does it mean then to be made perfect forever?
4. Who has Christ made perfect forever?

### **REMEMBER:**

The word *tetlaoken* (made perfect) is in the perfect tense which means it is a completed, past action that has continuing results into the present. The word *hagiazomenous* (being made holy) is in the present tense, passive voice, which means that it is an action that is going on right now. It is an incomplete, on going action happening to the saint.

On the cross Christ did a completed work which made us perfect forever in the eyes of God. This is positional holiness, which has delivered us from the penalty of sin. It is referred to as justification. In the meantime the Spirit of Christ is making us holy now. This is the process of becoming holy, the work of the Holy Spirit delivering us from the power of sin. It is referred to as sanctification.

"Made perfect" is a c\_\_\_\_\_, p\_\_\_\_\_ action.

"Being made holy is an i\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_ action.

"Made perfect" was done f\_\_\_\_\_ us.

"Being made holy" is being done t\_\_\_\_\_ us.



## ILLUSTRATION: BLUEPRINT

Before creation God had a blueprint in his mind of what he wanted to do, but he hadn't done it yet. In the same way a person is completely perfect in the mind of God as he is being made holy in Christ.

The construction of a building is started with the building design complete in the mind of the architect; so complete, in fact, he can draw a picture or make a model of the finished product. It is, however, the job of the construction workers to build the actual building to the architect's final design.



## THE SHED BLOOD OF CHRIST MADE US PERFECT

### **Hebrews 10:10**

*And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

1. Through what have we been made holy?
2. Keep in mind that the sacrifice of Christ was made once for all. What does that mean?

### **Hebrews 13:12**

*And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.*

1. Why did Jesus suffer?
2. How did he make them holy?
3. What does blood do for the physical body?

### **Romans 5:18-19**

*Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*



1. What happened when Adam sinned?
2. What was the result of one act of righteousness?
3. What does justification bring?  
What kind? (Think back to S.O.S. I, Lesson 1.)
4. How are we made righteous?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● THE ON-GOING WORK OF THE SPIRIT IS MAKING US HOLY

### **2 Thessalonians 2:13**

*But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.*

1. Who chose us?
2. What did he choose us for?  
Through what means?
3. Circle God's part in the above answer. Underline our part.

### **1 Peter 1:2**

*[To God's elect] ... who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.*

For what does the sanctifying work of the Spirit prepare us?

We are saved through the obedience of Christ to be able to obey Christ.

## 2 Peter 1:3-4

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

1. What does God's divine power give us?
2. Because of God's precious promises, what are we able to participate in?

What does that mean?

What part of the Holiness Equation is that?

3. What are we able to escape from?

What is that?

What part of the Holiness Equation is that?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● THE HOLINESS EQUATION

Separation from evil + Connection to God = Holiness

Participation in God's divine nature = c\_\_\_\_\_

Escape corruption caused by evil desires = s\_\_\_\_\_

# THINKING IT THROUGH



## HOW ARE WE MADE HOLY?

### **Hebrews 10:14**

*Because by the one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.*

1. DEFINE: (Write your own definitions from your understanding of Hebrews 10:14 or look at the definitions in the introduction.)
  - a) Justification
  - b) Sanctification
2. Can justification and sanctification be separated? Why not?
3. He has m\_\_\_\_\_ perfect forever those who are b\_\_\_\_\_ made holy.

This means:



**NOTE:** If we are being sanctified we are justified. If we are justified then we are being sanctified. If we are not being sanctified then either we have stopped the work of the Spirit or we were never justified.



## THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

If the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit has slowed down or even stopped in your life, what are the steps you need to take? (Think about the equation of holiness and the principles of S.O.S. I.)

I need to separate from evil by:

I need to connect to God by:



## ILLUSTRATION: NO WORKERS

An architect's blueprint has already laid out the completed building. The building, however, is being made complete by the work of the construction crews. If there is a strike and the construction workers leave the job site, the work comes to a standstill. As long as they are off the job the building will never be brought to completion, no matter how complete it is in the mind of the architect. The solution to completing the building is to get the construction crews on the job site and back to work again.

In our Christian life it is the work of the Holy Spirit that is making us holy. If the Holy Spirit is absent then the work comes to a standstill. The solution is to get the Holy Spirit back at work in our life through separation from our own internal evil and connection to God.

Without the Holy Spirit we are without p\_\_\_\_\_ for life and godliness, without participation in

God's divine n\_\_\_\_\_, and without ability to separate from our e\_\_\_\_\_ desires.  
(2 Peter 1:3-4)

### REMEMBER:

We are those who are being made holy only when the Holy Spirit is on the job site. God sees the completed work, even though we are still under construction.

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



### FREED FROM THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH

#### **Romans 7:21-8:4**

*<sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.*

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.*



**NOTE:** The law is the controlling power or authority.

1. What is the spiritual war that is going on inside us? (Vs. 21,23)

2. What keeps us from winning the war on our own?

3. In our minds what are we a slave to? (VS. 25)

4. In the flesh what are we a slave to? (VS. 25)

5. Who is not condemned? (VS. 1)

6. Why are those who are in Christ Jesus not condemned? (VS. 3)

7. Who sets us free from the law of sin and death? (VS. 2)

Through who?

Why is the Holy Spirit able to do that when we are unable?

8. When we no longer live according to the sinful nature who do we live according to? (VS. 4)

Which means we are being made what?

9. Who keeps us from being condemned?

How was this done?

10. Can being set free be done on your own?

Why not?

How is it done?



## DELIVERED AND NOT CONDEMNED

1. It is Christ's work on the cross which keeps us from condemnation in our failures due to our sinful nature. Christ delivered us from the penalty of sin.

- a) Do you fail?
- b) Are you condemned?
- c) Why not?

Key Word J \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Holy Spirit keeps us from being complacent and delivers us from the power of our sinful nature until we become perfect. The Holy Spirit delivers us from the power of sin. Complacent is being content in a sinful state.

- a) Are you being made holy?
- b) Through what means?

Key Word S \_\_\_\_\_

## PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



### SELF-EXAMINATION

Take the test below, "Is the Holy Spirit on the Job Site in Your Life?" The "yes" areas are where the power of the Spirit is at work in you. The "no" areas are the ones where you have sent the Spirit off of the job site. Underneath the statement, write what step on the Progression of Belief (S.O.S. I, Lesson 3) you think this would be (belief, love, obedience, result). This will help you determine what your response should be to the "no" or "some" areas you check.

IS THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE JOB SITE IN YOUR LIFE?	YES	NO	SOME
1. I am experiencing power to overcome sin in my own life.			
2. The knowledge of my sin does not condemn me but causes me to see my need for God.			
3. I experience God's goodness and grace in increasing measure in my life.			
4. In difficult circumstances I can respond with the Lord's grace.			
5. I have peace regardless of the circumstances I find myself in.			
6. I have a growing desire to uncover my sin and to be made holy.			
7. I am growing in my knowledge of God and his awesome power.			
8. I know that the blood of Christ has justified me before God.			
9. I find myself drawn to study God's word.			
10. I desire to commune with God in prayer.			



## PERSONAL ACTION

1. Write out the areas where you checked "no" or "some" on the self examination. What do you need to do in these areas to get the Spirit back on the job? (Remember: separation from own evil + connection to God = holiness.)

2. Questions to ask yourself in the situations of daily life:

"Is the Holy Spirit working in me now as I do this?"

"Am I dependent on the Holy Spirit or trying to become holy through my own actions?"

"Have I placed myself under the power of sin or the power of the Spirit?"

## PRAYER

- Write out what you would like the Holy Spirit to be doing in your life.





# 03

## **LESSON THREE:**

**OUR PART IN OUR HOLINESS**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

### LESSON ONE

1. What is the EQUATION OF HOLINESS?

\_\_\_\_\_ from sin + \_\_\_\_\_ to God = holiness

2. What does holiness prepare us for?

### LESSON TWO

1. Who has been made perfect forever?

2. What does justification mean we are delivered from?

3. What are we delivered from through sanctification?

## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson will focus on what is our part in becoming holy. Last lesson showed that our holiness is a work of God in us through the justifying work of Jesus Christ on the cross and through the sanctifying work of the Spirit of Christ in us. God gives and we receive. This lesson will examine our part in receiving what God gives.

1. Does everyone receive what God gives? Why not?

2. How do we receive what God gives?

### THE BATTLE TO BELIEVE

God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. When the Israelites left Egypt they miraculously crossed over two bodies of water to fulfill God's promise:

- RED SEA – They left Egypt which was a calling to be separate from the world, evil, etc.
- JORDAN RIVER – They entered the Promise Land which was entering into a relationship with God and the blessings of that relationship.

To enter the Promise Land the people of Israel could not possess God's promise until they fought for God's promise. It is easy to de-emphasize the part of Christianity that requires a battle or struggle. As with Israel our possessing God's promise requires a fight. To avoid the battle is to forfeit the prize. If we pursue ease, our destiny will be burden. We need to know that spiritually we are in a time of war and will be either the victor or the vanquished.

1. Besides the battle for the Promise Land what personal battle did the Israelites have to fight over and over again?
2. How does that relate to our personal battles?



**NOTE:** The real battle is at the level of belief. Who or what are you going to put your trust or faith in? The Greek word, *pistos*, is used interchangeably for faith, trust, and belief.

## PRAYER

- Pray for help in understanding what it means to be made holy.
- Ask for insight into your own need for holiness and dependence on the Holy Spirit.
- Thank Jesus that he died to make us holy.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES



## BELIEVING IN THE GIFT

### **John 3:16-21**

*<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. <sup>19</sup>This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."*

1. To whom did God give the gift of his Son? (VS. 16)
2. Does everyone in the world receive God's gift?
3. Who receives God's gift? (VS. 16)
4. It sounds so easy; why do so many people fail to believe?
5. What does it mean to live by the truth? (VS. 21)

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PUTTING OUR FAITH IN THE TRUTH

### **2 Thessalonians 2:13**

*But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.*

1. What must be combined with the sanctifying work of the Spirit for us to experience the Holy Spirit working in us?
2. Is belief in the truth something we do or God does?

Faith in the truth is our part of being connected to God, resulting in living a fruitful, abundant life. Is putting our faith in the truth easy? Explain your answer.

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● FIGHTING THE FIGHT OF FAITH

### **1 Timothy 6:12**

*Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

1. Why does Paul call our struggle a fight of faith?
2. What are the three forces of evil opposing our fight of faith?

The stake in the battle is the outcome of our lives as we will become like what we are connected to. We connect to what we put our faith in. We become like what we love. If we connect to a polluted stream, we become polluted. If we are connected to the vine, we become fruitful.

**REMEMBER:**

Our holiness, our being connected and useful, results from our looking up to God and God filling us up so we can walk up. Our part of holiness is to look up by putting our faith in Christ, by believing the truth. God's part is to fill us up by indwelling our hearts with his Spirit, enabling us to walk up and be fruitful in the way we live. When we look up God fills us up so we can walk up.

●●● ■■■ ●●●  
**EXPERIENCING THE POWER OF OUR FAITH**

**1 John 5:4-5**

*<sup>4</sup>for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.*

1. Who is our faith in?
2. What does our faith give us the power to do?


What does that mean?

**Hebrews 11:6**

*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*

1. How do we please God?
2. How do most people think we please God?
3. What does God do in response to our faith?

If we believe in Jesus and rely on God, God is faithful to us and we have divine power to overcome and experience his blessing through our connection to him. A man can't fly on his own but he can choose to get on an airplane and be enabled to fly.



**ILLUSTRATION: TRUST/ BELIEF**

What you put your faith in determines the outcome of the battle. In the battle for the frontier the Indians trusted in their bows and arrows while the settlers trusted in their guns. The settlers dominated because they had more powerful weapons to use.

When we trust in God he is faithful to us and there is nothing that can overpower him. If our trust is in ourselves or someone or something less than God, we are easily overcome by evil and defeated. Our battle is a battle of trust or belief, trusting in the truth of God, the shed blood of Christ and the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

## THINKING IT THROUGH

### ●●● ■■■ ●●● THE EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL

Before Israel was delivered from the captivity of Egypt, Israel did not have a chance to do battle as she was enslaved and completely dominated by the Egyptians. Once God delivered her from slavery, she was told to take possession of the Promise Land. To take possession of the land Israel had to battle for it. As Israel put her faith in God and his promises, she was able to overcome the enemies living in the land. In the same way, before being born again, we were slaves to our sin and our sin completely dominated us. We were not free to battle. Now, however, we are in a battle to acquire the promises of God for our souls. God is the one who enables us to conquer.

1. What are the three options for a warrior facing battle?
2. What happens if we fail to acknowledge the battle?

In our warfare, our primary battle is against our sinful nature. If we try to fight on our own against our sinful nature, we lose. Our primary war is one against doubt; "Is God working in me and able to give me victory?" As Paul called it in 1 Timothy, it is a "fight of faith." Christians live in captivity to sin because of doubt and lack of faith in God and his truth, not because they are under-powered to have victory.



## ILLUSTRATION: WIN THE BATTLE

We lost the Vietnam War, not because we were weak and didn't have enough military power, but because we were unwilling to use the strength we had at our disposal. If we are going to win the battle against Satan, the world, and our flesh, we must trust in our big weapons: the blood of Christ and the indwelling Spirit of Christ. Our part is to trust God to work in us, and for us to fight the fight of faith and to believe the truth.

### REMEMBER:

To become holy in this life and wear a crown in the next, we must fight the battle of faith.

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



### THE EXAMPLE OF PETER BEFORE AND AFTER PENTECOST

#### **Matthew 26:31-35**

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' <sup>32</sup>But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>33</sup>Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

<sup>34</sup>"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

<sup>35</sup>But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

#### **Matthew 26:69-75**

Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

<sup>70</sup>But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

<sup>71</sup>Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

<sup>72</sup>He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

<sup>73</sup>After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away."

<sup>74</sup>Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup>Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

1. What did Peter do on the night they took Jesus before the Sanhedrin?

Why?

### **Acts 4:1-22**

<sup>1</sup>The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup>They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup>They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup>But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family.

<sup>7</sup>They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup>If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup>then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup>He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. <sup>12</sup>Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

<sup>13</sup>When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup>But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. <sup>15</sup>So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. <sup>16</sup>"What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup>But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

<sup>18</sup>Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup>But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. <sup>20</sup>For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." <sup>21</sup>After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. <sup>22</sup>For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

2. What happened to Peter after being filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost?



3. What did the authorities recognize about Peter and John?
4. What would Peter have been like if he had just believed in the death and resurrection of Christ but never been filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost?

## PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



### SELF-EXAMINATION

1. Can you maintain faith in the truth without maintaining a regular exposure to the truth?

Why not?

2. Are you daily in God's word?

If, no, why not?

3. Are you seeking to yield to God's will?

If, no, why not?

4. Have you asked the Spirit of Christ to live in you and rule over you?

If, no, why not?

### PRAYER

- Knowing our battle is for faith write out your prayer in regards to your part in your being made holy.



# 04

## **LESSON FOUR:**

**THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

### LESSON 1-3

1. Who has been made perfect?
2. What is justification?
3. What is sanctification?
4. What is the equation of holiness?

## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson will be focusing on the result we experience when we increase in holiness.

### PRAYER

- Pray for deeper understanding of the value of holiness.
- Ask for a desire to increase in holiness and be open to discipline and instruction.
- Thank God that he is holy and desires for us to share in his holiness for our benefit.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

## THE FOUNDATION OF HOLINESS

### **2 Peter 1:3**

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*

1. What has God's divine power given us?
2. What do you think the word godliness means?

The word for godliness is *eusebeian* and it means piety, having a proper attitude or reverence toward God that expresses itself in action. Therefore, it can be stated that God's divine power has given us everything we need for an abundant life and a proper, reverent attitude towards God manifested in action.

3. Going back to the scripture what is the source of our piety (a proper attitude or reverence towards God)?

What is the source of abundant life?

If we have a humble, pious attitude, we have a relationship, a connection to God, and receive what we need for life from God. A plug has to be conformed to the configuration of the outlet in order to receive power. A 220 volt clothes dryer cannot be plugged into a normal outlet. The plug and the outlet must have the same configuration. A pious, submissive attitude toward God conforms us to receive his divine power.

4. If everything we need for life and godliness is available through God's divine power, why would we try to get what we need outside of God's divine power?

5. According to this verse, how do we receive God's full provision of life and godliness?

The word *epignosko* (complete or full knowledge) does not refer to intellectual knowledge but rather personal, first hand knowledge.

a) Example- How many know of Abraham Lincoln?

How many know him personally?

b) Our personal, first hand knowledge of God comes through our connection with him.

### **John 14:16-18**

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

6. Through whom do we gain a full, intimate knowledge of Christ?



## THE CALLING TO HOLINESS

### **2 Peter 1:3-4**

*His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

1. Through what do we gain everything we need for living a good life?
2. "Through these" refer to what God called us by, his glory and goodness.

What has God given us through his glory and goodness?

3. What do you think is God's greatest and most precious promise?
4. For what two reasons has he given us his great and precious promises?
5. How do these two reasons fit in with the HOLINESS EQUATION?
6. What causes corruption?
7. Where do evil desires come from?
8. In what must we participate in order to escape from corruption?
9. What must we receive in order to participate in his divine nature?



## THE DEMONSTRATION OF HOLINESS

### **2 Peter 1:5-7**

*For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self control; and to self control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.*

"For this very reason," refers back to the truth that everything we need for life and godliness is through his divine nature, through his great and precious promises.

1. In what are we commanded to increase?
2. What are the circumstances you think cause us to increase more in holiness?

Why is that?



## THE RESULT AND VALUE OF HOLINESS

### **2 Peter 1:8-11**

*For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is near sighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.*

*Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

1. What is the first result of increasing holiness?
2. What have we forgotten about our sins if we fail to increase in holiness?
3. If you've forgotten that you've been cleansed from past sins how would that affect the way you look at present sins?

4. If we do not possess qualities of holiness what are we?

Which master does that place us under?

Why does that place us under Satan?

5. What will be the two ultimate results if we increase in holiness by doing these things?

6. How does increasing in holiness keep us from falling?

7. What do you think a rich welcome will be like?

8. What do you think your welcome into heaven would be like at this time?

## THINKING IT THROUGH



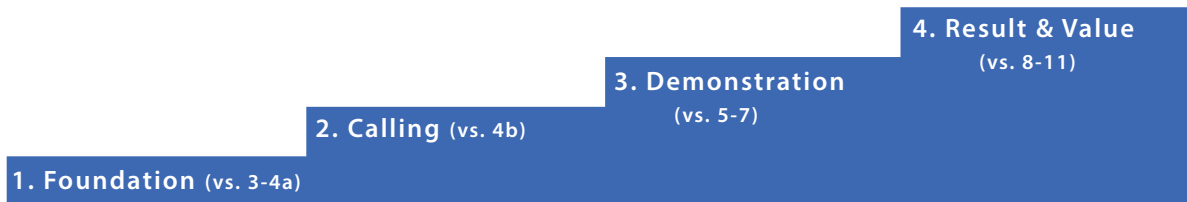
### THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

1. Fill in the blanks below.

K \_\_\_\_\_ of God comes through God's calling by his g \_\_\_\_\_ and g \_\_\_\_\_, which enables us to receive his d \_\_\_\_\_ p \_\_\_\_\_ through which he gives his very g \_\_\_\_\_ and p \_\_\_\_\_ p \_\_\_\_\_ so that we can p \_\_\_\_\_ in the d \_\_\_\_\_ n \_\_\_\_\_ and e \_\_\_\_\_ the c \_\_\_\_\_ in the w \_\_\_\_\_ caused by e \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_. Through participation in his divine nature we are therefore able to i \_\_\_\_\_ in h \_\_\_\_\_ which makes us e \_\_\_\_\_ and p \_\_\_\_\_ and means we will never f \_\_\_\_\_ and ultimately receive a r \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



2. Chart the Progression of Holiness.



## ●●● ■■■ ●●● INCREASING HOLINESS

Refer to the following definitions when answering the questions below.

**Faith (pistos)** – belief, trust

**Goodness** – moral excellence

**Knowledge** – personal familiarity with Holy Spirit and word of God

**Self control** – being able to control passions and appetites

**Perseverance** – steadfast endurance under adversity

**Godliness** – reverence towards God

**Brotherly kindness** – practical caring for others

**Love** – desiring highest good for others through sacrificial action

1. What would be the result if we fail to add goodness to faith?
2. What would be the result if we fail to add knowledge to goodness?
3. What would be the result if we fail to add self control to knowledge?
4. What would be the result if we fail to add perseverance to self control?
5. What would be the result if we fail to add godliness to perseverance?
6. What would be the result if we fail to add brotherly kindness to godliness?
7. What would be the result if we fail to add love to brotherly kindness?

# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## THE PROGRESSION OF DEPRAVITY

### **Romans 1:18-32**

<sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. <sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

<sup>26</sup> Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. <sup>27</sup> In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

<sup>28</sup> Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. <sup>29</sup> They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; <sup>31</sup> they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

1. What do men do to the truth? (VS. 18)
2. Why are men without excuse when they deny God? (VS. 20)
3. On the next page write out the progression of what happens when men suppress the truth.

THE STEPS OF DEPRAVITY		
STEPS	MAN'S EVIL ACTION	CONSEQUENCE OF ACTION
1	v. 18,21	v. 21
2	v. 22,23,25	v. 24,26
3	v. 26,27	v. 27
4	v. 28	v. 28

●●● ■■■ ●●●

## COMPARING THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS AND DEPRAVITY

Fill out the chart below for the Progression of Belief in terms of the steps of depravity from Romans 1:18-32 and increasing holiness from 2 Peter 1:3-11.

PROGRESSION OF BELIEF		
	STEPS OF DEPRAVITY	INCREASING HOLINESS
	ROMANS 1:18-32	2 Peter 1:3-11
BELIEVE	v. 21	v. 3
LOVE	v. 25	v. 4
OBEY	v. 26-27	v. 5-7
RESULT	v. 28-31	v. 8

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION

Check yourself on the following chart.

AM I INCREASING IN...?	YES	NO
FAITH (belief, trust)		
GOODNESS (moral excellence)		
KNOWLEDGE (personal familiarity with the Word of God, Holy Spirit)		
SELF-CONTROL (controlling passions)		
PERSEVERANCE (steadfast endurance)		
BROTHERLY KINDNESS (practical caring)		
LOVE (sacrificial action)		

My evaluation of myself in terms of increasing holiness is:



## PERSONAL ACTION

If you are not demonstrating increasing holiness in your life then you need to go back to the first step in the Progression of Belief and ask yourself:

1. How do you show you believe that everything you need for life and godliness comes through your knowledge of Christ (relationship with)?
2. How are you embracing Christ's great and precious promises and seeking to uncover any sin (escape corruption) that would separate you from him and keep you from participating in the divine nature and therefore from increasing in holiness?



**NOTE:** It is what you believe and love that you will obey.

## PRAYER

- Write out what you feel is your need in increasing in holiness. (space in back)

# 05

## **LESSON FIVE:**

**THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

### LESSON 1-3

What is the equation of holiness?

### LESSON 4

1. What has God's divine power given us?
2. What type of attitude is the basis of godliness?
3. What is the result if we increase in holiness?



## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson looks at the attribute that is the essence of God's holiness.

1. What are some of the attributes that are part of God's holy character?
2. What is the one attribute of God's holy character that permeates all the other attributes?

## PRAYER

- Ask to understand the real essence of God, holiness and love.
- Pray that your connection to God would increase and you could learn to love as he does.
- Thank God for his love in sending his Son to make us perfect forever.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES



## THE ESSENCE OF GOD'S HOLY CHARACTER

### **1 JOHN 4:8**

*Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

### **1 John 4:16**

*And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.  
Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.*

1. What does the statement "God is love" mean?

God's holy character has many attributes: justice, mercy, wisdom, purity, etc. but none of these can be said to describe the very essence of God. You wouldn't say God is justice. Only love describes the complete essence of God. All other attributes come from his love.

2. What would God's justice be like without love?

3. What would God's mercy be like without love?

4. What would God's purity be like without love?

GOD IS LOVE. All his other attributes are like branches extending from his love. Love is the pre-eminent essence of God's holy character.



## THE ESSENCE OF LOVE

### **1 JOHN 4:8**

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

If love is the essence of God's holy character, what is the essence of God's love?

Since the essence of God's holy character is love and the essence of God's love is the sacrificial, selfless giving of his Son, then the essence of God's holiness in us is the essence of God's love, sacrificial, selfless giving.



## THE ESSENCE OF WICKEDNESS

### **2 Timothy 3:1-4**

*But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.*

If love is the essence of holiness, what is the essence of wickedness?



## THE CALL TO PUT ON LOVE

### **Colossians 3:12-14**

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you, and over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

1. As God's chosen people what are we?
2. What do we put on over all the other virtues?
3. What does love do for the other virtues?
4. ILLUSTRATION - THE UNITY OF LOVE
  - a. What is it that holds your clothes together?
  - b. What would happen if all the elements that hold the clothes together were removed?

Love binds all the virtues together and makes them useful for God's purposes like the way that the seams, buttons, zippers, etc. hold the pieces of cloth together and make them useful as clothing.





## THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LOVE

### **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

Is love a feeling or action?

How do you know?

## THINKING IT THROUGH



## THE CONNECTION BETWEEN OUR LOVE AND GOD'S LOVE

To overcome the misconception that love is a feeling rather than an action, substitute the essence of love "selfless giving" for the word love in the following passage from 1 John 4:7-12.

Dear friends, let us \_\_\_\_\_ one another, for \_\_\_\_\_ comes from God.

Everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does

not \_\_\_\_\_ does not know God, because God is \_\_\_\_\_.

This is how God showed his \_\_\_\_\_ among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might

live through him. This is \_\_\_\_\_: not that we \_\_\_\_\_ God, but that

he \_\_\_\_\_ us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God

so \_\_\_\_\_ us, we also ought to \_\_\_\_\_ one another. No one has ever seen God;

but if we \_\_\_\_\_ one another, God lives in us and his \_\_\_\_\_ is made

complete in us.

**REMEMBER:**

The ability to give selflessly comes from \_\_\_\_\_. If we are able to give selflessly we have been born of \_\_\_\_\_. If we know God we are able to \_\_\_\_\_. If we don't know God then we are not able to \_\_\_\_\_. If we are able to give selflessly to others then God \_\_\_\_\_ in us and his \_\_\_\_\_ is made complete in us. If we have no connection with selfless giving we have no connection to God. If we are connected to selfless giving we are then connected to God.



**ILLUSTRATION: SELFLESS GIVING**

In the 1600s in England, it was illegal to be a Quaker. During an outbreak of the Bubonic Plague, the only people who would tend to the sick were the Quakers. The soldiers would arrest the people who went to help the sick because they knew they could only be Quakers. This, however, did not stop the Quakers. They were connected to God's love and were able to give selflessly of themselves. This selfless giving had an impact on the life of William Penn and caused him to dedicate his life to God. Penn's family had money and influence and Penn was therefore able to appeal to the king on behalf of the Quakers to gain land for them in America.



**THE CONNECTION BETWEEN OUR LOVE AND GOD'S LOVE**

The only way we are able to put on love is through increasing holiness through the uncovering of and separation from our own sin (flesh) and through connecting to God's love. From scripture we can know what the actions of real love are. To be able to act in real love we have to be connected to God's divine power. Fill out the PUTTING ON LOVE CHART. The virtues of love come from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

## PUTTING ON LOVE CHART

IF I PUT ON...	I WILL SEPARATE FROM...	I WILL CONNECT BY...
<p><b>Patience - Psalm 37:7</b>  <i>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.</i></p>		
<p><b>Kindness - Romans 15:1-2</b>  <i>We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.</i></p>		
<p><b>Gratitude - 1 Thess. 5:16-18</b>  <i>Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.</i></p>		
<p><b>Humility - 2 Corinthians 3:5</b>  <i>Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.</i></p>		
<p><b>Respect - Matthew 7:12a</b>  <i>So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.</i></p>		
<p><b>Self-sacrifice - Philippians 2:4</b>  <i>Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.</i></p>		
<p><b>Self-control - Romans 13:14</b>  <i>Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.</i></p>		
<p><b>Forgiveness - Colossians 3:13</b>  <i>Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.</i></p>		
<p><b>Godliness - 1 Timothy 6:11</b>  <i>But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.</i></p>		
<p><b>Protectiveness - Luke 17:1</b>  <i>Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come.</i></p>		
<p><b>Trust - Proverbs 3:5-6a</b>  <i>Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him.</i></p>		
<p><b>Hope - Hebrews 10:23</b>  <i>Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.</i></p>		
<p><b>Faithfulness - 2 Timothy 2:10</b>  <i>Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.</i></p>		

# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOVE AND GREAT DEEDS

### **1 Corinthians 13:1-3**

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.*

1. What are great deeds worth without love?
2. What is the essence of love?
3. Who is the source of love?
4. So for our great deeds to be worth something who do we have to be connected to?

Non-Christians often are turned off toward Christianity because of the condemnation they feel coming from Christians. If we focus on the evil of society or what others are doing wrong, then we generally fail to see the evil of our own flesh. The evil of the world will be overcome by us only in the same way Christ ultimately overcame it, through love, the selfless, sacrificial gift of himself. Christ is accessible to us because of his love.

We can only share in the power of Christ's sacrificial love to overcome evil as we increase in holiness, separating ourselves from our own flesh and connecting to God. The best thing we can do for ourselves is to become selfless. We were created to reflect God and be selfless givers.



## STEPS TO DEFEATING EVIL

- Take the focus off outside evil.
- Seek to uncover and turn from own sin.
- Connect to God through Christ's love, the sacrificial gift of himself.
- Respond to evil through the selfless giving of increasing holiness.

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION

### THE LOVE TEST

IF I PUT ON LOVE I WILL BE ... (taken from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7)	HAVE I PUT ON LOVE?		
	YES	No	Some
Patient			
Kind			
Grateful			
Humble			
Respectful			
Self-sacrificing			
Self-controlled			
Forgiving			
Godly			
Protective			
Trusting			
Full of Hope			
Faithful			

#### 1. EXAMINING THE SACRIFICE OF SELF

a) If the essence of love is selfless giving, why should you want to love?

b) If you were more selfless what would be the personal result?

c) Our greatest moments are selfless moments. Write down one of your most joyous moments in your own life.

Were you thinking of yourself at that moment?

What were you thinking of?

Who ended up benefiting the most from your selfless act?

Why?

## 2. EXAMINING SELF-ABSORPTION

- a) Write down a description of the last time you were depressed.
  
- b) Who were you thinking about?
  
- c) What caused your depression?
  
- d) Have you ever been depressed when you were thinking about how you could help others or were actually in the process of helping someone else?

The most valuable thing we can do for ourselves is to seek increasing blessing from God through sharing in his divine nature and increasing in holiness.

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PERSONAL ACTION

Check yourself regularly to see how you are doing by taking the LOVE TEST. When you fail to put on love evaluate why.

I did not put on love in the form of (virtue) \_\_\_\_\_ when I \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I was not connected to God's love because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next time I will \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER

- Confess where you see an absence of love in your own life.
- Write out your prayer for help in growing in love.



# **LESSON SIX:**

**THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

### LESSON ONE

1. What is the EQUATION OF HOLINESS?
2. What are the three areas of evil we need to separate from?

### LESSON TWO

1. Justification: Jesus delivered us from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.
2. Sanctification: The Holy Spirit is delivering us from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

### LESSON THREE

What is our main part to becoming holy?

### LESSON FOUR

1. What has God's divine power given us?
2. What type of attitude is the basis of godliness?
3. What is the result if we increase in holiness?

### LESSON FIVE

1. What is the essence of holiness?
2. What is the essence of love?
3. What is the essence of wickedness?

## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson focuses on the six principles or rules for holy living found in Colossians 3:1-17.



## PRAYER

- Pray for understanding of what holy living entails.
- Ask God that his word would be working in us and conforming us to him.
- Thank God that there is great benefit in living out his plan.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

### **Colossians 3:1-17**

<sup>1</sup> Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup> You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. <sup>8</sup> But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. <sup>11</sup> Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God, <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

According to Colossians 3:1-17 what are the six main principles for holy living?

1. (V. 1-2)

2. (V.5)

3. (V. 10)

4. (V. 15)

5. (V. 16)

6. (V. 17)

## THINKING IT THROUGH



### PRINCIPLE ONE

SET YOUR HEART AND MIND ON THINGS ABOVE (V. 1-2)

1. What does it mean to set your heart and mind on things above?
2. How does it affect our lives if we set our hearts and minds on things above?

**EXAMPLE: Paul (Acts 20:22-24)**

<sup>22</sup>*And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.*

<sup>23</sup>*I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me.*

<sup>24</sup>*However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.*

How is this an example of principle one?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PRINCIPLE TWO

### PUT TO DEATH THE EARTHLY NATURE (V. 5)

1. What does it mean to put to death your earthly nature?
  
2. How does it affect us if we put to death the earthly nature?

#### **EXAMPLE: Ephesus (Acts 19:17-20)**

*<sup>17</sup>When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. <sup>18</sup>Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. <sup>19</sup>A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. <sup>20</sup>In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.*

How is this an example of principle two?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PRINCIPLE THREE

### PUT ON THE NEW SELF (V. 10)

The words "put on" are words of dressing.

1. What does it mean to put on the new self?
  
2. How does it affect us if we put on the new self?

#### **EXAMPLE: Gaius (3 John 2-4)**

*<sup>2</sup>Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. <sup>3</sup>It gave me great joy to have some brothers come and tell about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.*

How is this an example of principle three?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PRINCIPLE FOUR

### LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE IN YOUR HEART (V. 15)

The word for rule is *brabuo*. It is a sporting term which means the function of an umpire.

1. How can the peace of God rule us in the sense of an umpire?

The presence of peace or the lack of peace should show us whether we are in or out of bounds. When we find ourselves in a situation of conflict without the peace of God we tend to say, "how can I straighten out the other person to regain God's peace?" The correct response is, "How can I regain God's peace by responding in God's will?" It is impossible to have the peace of Christ when we are disobedient to God's truth.

2. How will it affect us if we let the peace of God rule our hearts?

### EXAMPLE: David (2 Samuel 24:10)

*<sup>10</sup>David was conscience-stricken after he had counted the fighting men, and he said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. Now, O LORD, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing."*

How is this an example of principle four?

## ●●● ■■■ ●●● PRINCIPLE FIVE

### LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY (V. 16)

The same word which means indwelling means residence in a house. The Word of Christ in a limited sense is the teachings of Christ but in a broader sense refers to all of God's truth. The word richly refers to abundantly.

1. What does it mean to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly?

If the word of Christ dwells in us richly it means the principles that reside in us or have made their home in us are God's truth; as compared to sin living in us which means deception has taken residence.

2. What are we like if the Word of Christ dwells in us abundantly?

**EXAMPLE: Fellowship of believers (Acts 2:42-47)**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

How is this an example of principle five?

●●● ■■■ ●●●  
**PRINCIPLE SIX**

**DO EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF JESUS (V. 17)**

1. What does it mean that whatever we do, do it in the name of Christ?

2. What will be the result of our doing everything in his name?

**EXAMPLE: Peter and John (Acts 4:8-10)**

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup>If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup>then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

How is this an example of principle six?

# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## THE BENEFITS OF FOLLOWING THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

1. Going rule by rule write out a profile of the qualities a person who follows the PRINCIPLES OF HOLY LIVING would have.

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

#6

2. Would you want to be like this person?

Why?

What would keep you from being like this?

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION

On the following page evaluate yourself on how well you follow the PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING.  
(N.I. stands for needs improvement.)

HOW WELL DO YOU FOLLOW THE RULES?		GOOD	O.K.	N.I.
1	Set your mind on things above.			
2	Put to death your earthly nature.			
3	Put on the new self.			
4	Let the peace of Christ Rule in Your heart.			
5	Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.			
6	Whatever you do, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.			



## PERSONAL ACTION

1. Finish each sentence with a personal problem or sin that you would be able to overcome if you followed that rule for holy living. This should be personal and specific.

Rule 1 If I set my mind on things above then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

Rule 2 If I put to death my earthly nature then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

Rule 3 If I put on the new self then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

Rule 4 If the peace of God rules in my heart then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

Rule 5 If the word of Christ dwells in me richly then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

Rule 6 If whatever I do I do in the name of the Lord Jesus then I would \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_.





# 07

## **LESSON SEVEN:**

**A HOLINESS EVALUATION**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

What are the six Principles for Holy Living?

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

#6

## LESSON FOCUS

In this lesson we will be examining the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT. The idea is that if we are implementing the RULES FOR HOLY LIVING we should be producing holy fruit in our lives.



### ILLUSTRATION: IMPROVING FRUIT

If we have a fruit tree with withered or defective fruit, we try to improve the fruit, not by doing something to the fruit, but by trying to improve the growing conditions, i.e., fertilizing, watering, pruning, etc.

The RULES FOR HOLY LIVING are like preparing the soil, getting rid of pests, watering, etc. If we are living out the RULES FOR HOLY LIVING then we will have good fruit. In this lesson we are going to examine our own fruit and have a chance to reflect on how we might be able to improve our own growing conditions by evaluating how we apply daily the Rules for Holy Living.

## PRAYER

- Ask God to help you look honestly at the fruit your life is producing.
- Pray for understanding of any way you are not living out the Rules for Holy Living.
- Thank God that as you increase in holiness your life will produce good fruit through his power and for his glory.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

### **Galatians 5:22-25**

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

1. What do you think the phrase, "fruit of the Spirit," means?
2. What are both the fruit of the spirit and the acts of the sinful nature a product of?

**EXAMPLE:** We produce what we are. If we are living holy lives, we will produce good fruit, fruit after its own kind. Lemon trees don't produce apples; sin will not produce love. Peaches are a natural consequence of growing a peach tree; the fruit of the Spirit is a natural consequence of holy living. Acts of the sinful nature are a result of living in the flesh.

## RECOGNIZING THE FRUIT

### **Matthew 7:15-20**

*Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.*

1. How will people recognize us?  
  
What does that mean?
2. What will happen to the tree that does not bear good fruit?  
  
What does that mean?
3. What does bad fruit show?

# THINKING IT THROUGH



## DEFINING AND EVALUATING THE FRUIT

- Read through the definitions and then rate yourself on the fruit of the Spirit. Use the symbols:
  - + If it is a quality that typifies you most of the time.
  - 0 If you are unsure if the quality typifies you.
  - If the quality is not in evidence very often in your life.
  
- After you have rated yourself for the present then go back and rate yourself to see if there has been improvement compared to five years ago. Use the symbols:
  - + If you have improved in that quality.
  - 0 If you are about the same in that quality.
  - If you have decreased in that quality.

		NOW	5 YEARS AGO
1	<b>LOVE</b> ( <i>agape</i> ) - The desire to benefit another through sacrificial giving of oneself.		
2	<b>PEACE</b> ( <i>eirene</i> ) - An inner rest and well-being even in external adversity.		
3	<b>JOY</b> ( <i>chara</i> ) - A deep, abiding, inner rejoicing.		
4	<b>PATIENCE</b> ( <i>makiothymia</i> ) - Long-suffering, holding back retaliation against someone who has wronged you.		
5	<b>KINDNESS</b> ( <i>chrestos</i> ) - Mild, gracious, friendly, opposite of harsh.		
6	<b>GOODNESS</b> ( <i>agathosyne</i> ) - Functioning well in a moral sense, useful, good character expressed in useful action. Example: Jesus is the good shepherd because he protects his sheep with his life.		
7	<b>FAITHFULNESS</b> ( <i>pistis</i> ) - Trustworthy, reliable		
8	<b>GENTLENESS</b> ( <i>prantes</i> ) - Soothing disposition, meekness from strength, opposite of self-assertive and self-interested.		
9	<b>SELF-CONTROL</b> ( <i>egkratein</i> ) - Self-mastery, curbing sensual impulses.		
10	<b>COMPASSION</b> ( <i>oiktrimou</i> ) - Tender sympathy toward suffering.		
11	<b>HUMILITY</b> ( <i>tapesnosphrasune</i> ) - Free of pride and dependent upon God.		
12	<b>FORBEARANCE</b> ( <i>anecho</i> ) - To bear with, to endure one another, to hold oneself back when provoked.		
13	<b>FORGIVENESS</b> ( <i>charizomai</i> ) - To bestow favor unconditionally, show grace by forgiving any complaints we have for each other.		



## FLAWED FRUIT LIST

By looking at how you rated yourself on each of the fruit qualities you can see where you are producing flawed fruit. By comparing yourself to five years ago you can see where you have improved even if the fruit is still flawed. Write up a FLAWED FRUIT LIST by looking at the " " fruit on the evaluation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## REVIEW THE RULES FOR HOLY LIVING

If you lack in any one of the fruit qualities the solution is not to make yourself produce that fruit but to go back to the RULES FOR HOLY LIVING to see where you need to make changes to improve the fruit.

### 1. SET YOUR HEART AND MIND ON THINGS ABOVE – What our life is focused on

**ACTION:** Take your eyes off of earthly things, material possessions, circumstances, relationships, etc. Look at God's goals and purposes, his will, not at yourself and your own will.

**QUESTION:** Is your main focus on what you can acquire or do, your own relationships and circumstances or are you becoming more interested in what God wants for you which is the development of your character?

FRUIT AFFECTED:

### 2. PUT TO DEATH THE EARTHLY NATURE – Where we seek gratification

**ACTION:** Uncover your sins, confess them and repent. Do not think about gratifying the flesh.

**QUESTION:** Are there any areas of sin you are holding on to that belongs to the earthly nature and you need to get rid of? (Go back to S.O.S. I and rate your sins again.) Do you focus on pleasing yourself apart from God or pleasing God?

FRUIT AFFECTED:

### **3. PUT ON THE NEW SELF – What our character is like**

**ACTION:** Increase in holiness by connecting to God's divine power. Act in love.

**QUESTION:** Are you usually dressed with the qualities of holiness? (compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, love) In difficult circumstances or when you are personally attacked do you respond in the flesh or in the Spirit?

**FRUIT AFFECTED:**

### **4. LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE IN YOUR HEART – How we respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit**

**ACTION:** Seek to discover where you are not obedient. Look to see if there is anything you have done that has caused you to lose the peace of Christ.

**QUESTION:** When you are not experiencing God's peace do you pursue obedience as a means of getting it back or do you blame others? Are you grateful for your situation and God's provision?

**FRUIT AFFECTED:**

### **5. LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY – What informs our mind**

**ACTION:** Pursue and study God's word on a daily basis.

**QUESTION:** Are you learning, developing, and practicing God's principles? Does your affect on others come from the effect of God's word on you? Does your praise to God come from God's truth living in you?

**FRUIT AFFECTED:**

### **6. DO EVERYTHING IN THE NAME OF JESUS – The way we live life**

**ACTION:** Operate as an agent of Jesus by his will and in his strength. The words that come out of your mouth and the deeds that you do are under the authority of Jesus.

**QUESTION:** What kind of words are coming out of your mouth? What kind of deeds are you doing?

**FRUIT AFFECTED:**

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION - RULES FOR HOLY LIVING

Go through the questions for each of the RULES FOR HOLY LIVING below. If you answer yes to "a" then circle "a"; if you answer yes to "b" then circle "b". If you answer yes to both questions circle the one yes which more accurately characterizes you.

### 1. SET YOUR MIND AND HEART ON THINGS ABOVE.

- a) Do your circumstances control your feelings about life?
- b) Are you more concerned with the development of your character than your own comfort, prestige or value?

### 2. PUT TO DEATH YOUR EARTHLY NATURE.

- a) Do you focus more on the sins of others than your own sins?
- b) Do you go before God on a regular basis asking him to humble you and reveal your sins to you?

### 3. PUT ON THE NEW SELF.

- a) Are you trying to become holy by separating yourself from the evil of others or obeying on your own strength?
- b) Are you focusing on your need to be holy through your connection to God and the separation from your own flesh?

### 4. LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE YOUR HEART.

- a) When you are not experiencing God's peace do you focus on your circumstances or what others are doing wrong to you?
- b) When you are not experiencing God's peace do you pursue obedience as a means of getting it back?

### 5. LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY.

- a) Do you use the word of God as a tool against other people?
- b) Do you have a positive affect on others which comes from the effect on God's word working change in you?

### 6. DO ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

- a) Do you speak words or do deeds that would bring dishonor to Jesus?
- b) Are the words you speak and the deeds you do ones that would come from Jesus?



## PERSONAL ACTION PLAN

Write up a PERSONAL ACTION PLAN for each of the fruit on your FLAWED FRUIT LIST. Look at any rule for which you circled "a" on the self evaluation and consider your failure to follow this rule as a possible source of your flawed fruit.

1. I am not producing the fruit of \_\_\_\_\_ in my life.
2. I am not following Rule # \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The sin keeping me from following the rule is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The lie motivating the sin is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Go back to S.O.S. I, Lesson 7, and bring truth to the lie you believe.
6. To grow in holiness I will separate from my sin and connect to God through:
  - a) Repentance (Write out your prayer for forgiveness and help.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b) Obedience (Write out the steps you will take.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c) Faith (Write out your prayer for help in the battle.)

### PRAYER

- Write out your prayer for help in living out the Rules for Holy Living so that good fruit will be produced in your life. (Space in back)





# LESSON EIGHT:

**HOLINESS EXEMPLIFIED**

# INTRODUCTION

## REVIEW

### LESSON ONE - WHAT IS HOLINESS

1. What is the EQUATION OF HOLINESS?
2. What are the three areas of evil we are to separate from?
3. When we are being made holy what are we useful for?

### LESSON TWO - GOD'S PART IN MAKING US HOLY

1. Who has been made perfect forever?
2. What is justification?
3. What is sanctification?

### LESSON THREE - OUR PART IN BEING MADE HOLY

1. What is our battle for?
2. What is our battle against?

### LESSON FOUR - THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

1. What has God's divine power given us?
2. What is the ultimate result of increasing in holiness?

### LESSON FIVE - LOVE, THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS

1. What is the essence of love?
2. What is the essence of wickedness?
3. How do we put on love? (Equation of holiness)

## REVIEW

### LESSON SIX - PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

What are the six principles or rules for holy living?

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5

#6

### LESSON SEVEN - A HOLINESS EVALUATION

1. What does following the RULES FOR HOLY LIVING produce?

2. What does flawed fruit show?

## LESSON FOCUS

This lesson will look at the godly characteristics that are exemplified through men and women in the Bible.

### PRAYER

- Pray that God's holiness would be shown in your life.
- Ask for an ever increasing desire to be made holy.
- Thank God that he is holy and that he gives us the power to live holy lives.

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES



## WE ARE CALLED TO BE LIKE GOD

### **Ephesians 5:1-2**

*Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

### **Matthew 5:48**

*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

### **John 15:5**

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

1. Whom are we called to imitate?
2. What kind of life are we to live?
3. Why are we to do the above?
4. How are we to do the above?

## THINKING IT THROUGH

Looking at men and women in scripture whose lives demonstrated holiness and also at the example of Christ can help us see what we need in our own lives. Below is a list of the fruit of the Spirit and men and women from scripture who exemplified that fruit. Pick which fruit you most want to examine first, read the scriptures and answer the questions. Then go through the other fruit and do the same.

	QUALITY	EXEMPLIFIED IN MEN	EXEMPLIFIED IN JESUS
1	Love	The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:30-37	John 15:9-13
2	Joy	Paul and Silas – Acts 16:22-25	Luke 15:4-7
3	Peace	Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego – Daniel 3:16-18	John 14:25-27
4	Patience	Paul – 2 Timothy 3:10-13	1 Peter 2:23
5	Kindness	Friends of the paralytic – Luke 5:17-20	Matthew 11:28-29
6	Goodness	Dorcas – Acts 9:36-39	John 10:11-13
7	Faithfulness	Abraham – Hebrews 11:8-11	2 Timothy 2:13
8	Gentleness	Joseph – Matthew 1:18-19	Mark 10:13-16
9	Self-Control	Joseph, son of Jacob – Genesis 39:6-10	Matthew 4:1-11
10	Compassion	Pharaoh's daughter – Exodus 2:5-10	John 11:33-44
11	Humility	Isaiah – Isaiah 6:1-5	Philippians 2:5-8
12	Forbearance	Barnabas – Acts 15:36-40	Acts 9:3-6
13	Forgiveness	Stephen – Acts 7:54-60	Luke 23:33-34

**1. LOVE** - Desire to benefit another through sacrificial giving of oneself

a) What can I learn from the example of the Good Samaritan? (Luke 10:30-37)

*<sup>30</sup>In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'*

*<sup>36</sup>"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"*

*<sup>37</sup>The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."*

*Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (John 15:9-13)

*<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

## 2. JOY - A deep, abiding inner rejoicing

a) What can I learn from the example of Paul and Silas? (Acts 16:22-25)

*<sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten. <sup>23</sup>After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. <sup>24</sup>Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.*

*<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Luke 15:4-7)

*<sup>4</sup>Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup>and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, `Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup>I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

**3. PEACE** - An inner rest and well being, even in external adversity

a) What can I learn from the example of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? (Daniel 3:16-18)

*<sup>16</sup>Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. <sup>17</sup>If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup>But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."*

b) What can I learn from the example/teaching of Jesus? (John 14:25-27)

*<sup>25</sup>"All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

**4. PATIENCE** - Long suffering, holding back retaliation against someone who has wronged you

a) What can I learn from the example of Paul? (2 Timothy 3:10-13)

*<sup>10</sup>You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, <sup>11</sup>persecutions, sufferings--what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. <sup>12</sup>In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup>while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (1 Peter 2:23)

*<sup>23</sup>When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?



**5. KINDNESS** - Mild, gracious, friendly, opposite of harsh

a) What can I learn from the example of the friends of the paralytic? (Luke 5:17-20)

*<sup>17</sup>One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick. <sup>18</sup>Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. <sup>19</sup>When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.*

*<sup>20</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Matt. 11:28-29)

*<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

**6. GOODNESS** - Functioning well in a moral sense; good character expressed in useful action

a) What can I learn from the example of Dorcas? (Acts 9:36-39)

*<sup>36</sup>In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup>About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup>Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"*

*<sup>39</sup>Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (John 10:11-13)

*<sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup>The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

## 7. FAITHFULNESS - Trustworthy, reliable

a) What can I learn from the example of Abraham? (Hebrews 11:8-11)

*<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.*

*<sup>11</sup>By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (2 Tim. 2:13)

*<sup>13</sup> if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

**8. GENTLENESS** - Soothing disposition, meekness from strength

a) What can I learn from the example of Joseph? (Matthew 1:18-19)

*<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Mark 10:13-16)

*<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup>When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup>I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

## 9. SELF-CONTROL - Self-mastery, curbing sensual impulses

a) What can I learn from the example of Joseph, son of Jacob?(Genesis 39:6-10)

*<sup>6</sup>So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.*

*Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, <sup>7</sup>and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"*

*<sup>8</sup>But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. <sup>9</sup>No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" <sup>10</sup>And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Matt. 4:1-11)

*<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."*

*<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, "It is written: `Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

*<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup>"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:*

*" `He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"*

*<sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is also written: `Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"*

*<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."*

*<sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: `Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"*

*<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

## 10. COMPASSION - Tender sympathy toward suffering

a) What can I learn from the example of Pharaoh's daughter? (Exodus 2:5-10)

<sup>5</sup>Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. <sup>6</sup>She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.

<sup>7</sup>Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

<sup>8</sup>"Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. <sup>9</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. <sup>10</sup>When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (John 11:33-44)

<sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup>"Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup>Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

<sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.

<sup>39</sup>"Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

<sup>40</sup>Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup>When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

## 11. HUMILITY - Free of pride and dependent upon God

a) What can I learn from the example of Isaiah? (Isaiah 6:1-5)

*<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>3</sup>And they were calling to one another:*

*"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup>At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.*

*<sup>5</sup>"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Phil. 2:5-8)

*<sup>5</sup>Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:*

*<sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

**12. FORBEARANCE** - To bear with, endure one another, to hold oneself back when provoked

a) What can I learn from the example of Barnabas? (Acts 15:36-40)

*<sup>36</sup>Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the brothers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."<sup>37</sup>Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them,<sup>38</sup>but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.<sup>39</sup>They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,<sup>40</sup>but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Acts 9:1-6)

*<sup>1</sup>Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest<sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup>As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.<sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"*

*<sup>5</sup>"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.*

*"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup>"Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?



**13. FORGIVENESS** - To bestow favor unconditionally, show grace by forgiving any complaints against another

a) What can I learn from the example of Stephen? (Acts 7:54-60)

*<sup>54</sup>When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.*

*<sup>56</sup>"Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."*

*<sup>57</sup>At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup>dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.*

*<sup>59</sup>While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.*

b) What can I learn from the example of Jesus? (Luke 23:33-34)

*<sup>32</sup>Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup>When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.*

c) What are some personal applications for my own life?

# CONCLUDING THOUGHTS



## THINKING AND DOING WHAT'S RIGHT

### ***Philippians 4:8, 9***

*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.*

*Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

1. What things are we to think about?

What does that mean?

2. What are we to do with what we are taught?

What does that mean?

3. What will be the result of thinking and doing what is right?

### **REMEMBER:**

Whatever your mind dwells on is what will be magnified in your life.

# PUTTING INTO PRACTICE



## SELF-EXAMINATION

Ask yourself the following questions to test if your mind is being molded by what is right and if you are willing to put what you learn into practice.

1. Have the principles I've learned from this study had an impact on my thinking?

If yes, in what way? If no, why not?

2. Have I applied what I've learned and has my behavior been changed?

If yes, in what way? If no, why not?



## SELF-EXAMINATION

Go back through the entire S.O.S. study on a regular basis. Find someone who you can lead through the study and disciple in the principles you have learned from God's word. The more you review the biblical principles in S.O.S. I and II the more you will know and love them and therefore act upon them in obedience.

## PRAYER

- Write out your prayer for where you see God needs to work in your life. (Space on the next page)



# **APPENDIX**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

# S.O.S. I REVIEW

## LESSONS 1-3

Masters, Truth, Deception, Result, Believe, Christ, Satan.  
Personal Sovereignty  
No, Own, Serve  
Temptation + Evil Desires = Sin  
Lust of the flesh, Lust of the eyes, Pride of life  
Peace, Glory, Honor

## REVIEW THE PROGRESSION OF BELIEF

Seek After Christ  
Believe Truth, Love God, Obey Righteousness, Eternal Life

Seek After The World  
Believe Deception, Love World, Obey Sin, Death, Destruction

## LESSON 4

Needs, God, Needs, God, God, Needs, Fulfill, Seek.

## LESSONS 5-8

Hearts, Uncover, Expose, Confessing, Forgives, Repentance

# LESSON ONE ANSWERS

## WHAT IS HOLINESS?

### INTRODUCTION

1. We have defects. We're corrupt.
2. God wants us to be holy. We will function well according to our design. It makes us useful. It benefits us, to God and to others.

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### WHAT IS HOLINESS?

1. nothing. They are opposites.
2. separate, holy
3. God, son/daughter, meaning he will watch over, take care of and teach us.
4. everything that contaminates body and spirit, our own evil desires, darkness in us, anything that hurts us
5. our heart
6. holiness, out of reverence for God

#### THE EQUATION OF HOLINESS

Separation (from the flesh) + Connection (to God)

The flesh. We won't want what Satan and the world have to offer.

The world. We think that the world is our source of corruption.

#### WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE WORLD?

1. every kind of sin, impure desires, etc.
2. put it to death. Completely do away with it.

#### HOW DO WE SEPERATE FROM EVIL?

1. Because they separated themselves from the outside evil, not the inside evil. They appeared good on the outside but they were dirty on the inside.
2. It's our own evil that causes us problems in our connection to God, not the evil in the world or outside evil. Our hearts have to be made clean. Doing right doesn't make us clean.

#### WHY DOES GOD WANT US TO BE HOLY?

1. the master, God. Because we are able to do good works from a right heart. We function well.
2. the other master (Satan). We serve Satan's purposes, not God's. We are broken and don't function well.
3. Any good work that God has for us. We can fulfill his purposes.
4. noble purposes. We do what pleases God, self-sacrificing deeds, beneficial actions.
5. So we are useful to him for good works and noble purposes. We function as we should.

#### WHAT VALUE DOES HOLINESS HAVE?

1. all things. It affects every part of our life positively and prepares us for eternity.
2. Physical training. They spend more time on it.

### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### THE EQUATION OF HOLINESS

1. Separation (from evil) + Connection (to God) = Holiness
2. We become like whatever we connect ourselves to.
3. Because it is contrary (in opposition to) God's nature. They are mutually exclusive opposites.
4. the flesh, world, Satan
5. flesh. If we separate from the flesh, we won't want what Satan and the world have to offer.
6. We remain in our own evil. We think we are righteous and pure but we are not.
7. our own evil hearts, desires  
By separating from the evil through confession and repentance and being restored.

# LESSON ONE ANSWERS

## WHAT IS HOLINESS?

### THE USEFULNESS OF HOLINESS

If I am a saint I will believe Truth  
Usefull to me: right, benefit, wrong, deceived  
Usefull to others: light, truth  
Usefull to God: world, visible

If I am a saint I will love God  
Usefull to me: good, good, relationship  
Usefull to others: God, love  
Usefull to God: glory, love

If I am a saint I will obey Righteousness  
Usefull to me: result  
Usefull to others: positive  
Usefull to God: work

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

#### OUR CONNECTION TO CHRIST MAKES US USEFUL

1. our connection to the vine (Christ)
2. nothing. It is dead. It doesn't get what it needs from the plant to produce fruit.

### PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE

#### SELF EXAMINATION

1. polluted, because there is evil in me.
2. pure, because of what Christ has done for me.
3. my own evil desires (list should follow)



# LESSON TWO ANSWERS

## GOD'S PART IN OUR HOLINESS

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

1. Separation (from sin) + Connection (to God)
3. good works, noble purposes

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### WE ARE MADE PERFECT AND ARE BEING MADE HOLY

1. those who are being made holy
2. the sacrifice of Christ on the cross
3. The work is completed and will last forever.
4. those who are being made holy

REMEMBER: Completed, Past, Incomplete, On-going, For, To

#### THE SHED BLOOD OF CHRIST MADE US PERFECT

Hebrews 10:10

1. The sacrifice of Christ
2. Once, all. Which means it was given at one time in the past and continues for everyone who came before or after.

Hebrews 13:12

1. To make the people holy
2. Through his own blood
3. Blood both cleanses and gives life. It removes toxins and delivers oxygen.

Romans 5:18-19

1. Everyone became a sinner.
2. Justification. Everyone can be made righteous.
2. Life, abundant and eternal
3. Through the obedience of Christ. The perfect one gave his life for the imperfect.

#### THE ON-GOING WORK OF THE SPIRIT IS MAKING US HOLY

Thessalonians 2:13

1. God, from the beginning
2. To be saved, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and belief in the truth

1 Peter 1:2

To obey Christ

2 Peter 1:3,4

1. Everything we need for life and godliness
2. His divine nature, We get to take part in who God is. connection
3. The corruption of the world caused by evil desires, Who we are apart from Christ, our sin nature. separation

#### THE HOLINESS EQUATION

Connection, Separation

# LESSON TWO ANSWERS

## GOD'S PART IN OUR HOLINESS

### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### HOW ARE WE MADE HOLY?

1. a. The work of Christ on the cross, which makes us perfect forever.  
b. The work of the Holy Spirit, which is making us holy.
2. No. They are both aspects of salvation.  
One is the outcome, the other is the process. One is the eternal work, the other is the current work.
3. Made, Being. Christ has made us perfect forever in the eyes of God those who the Holy Spirit is presently making holy.

#### THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I need to separate from evil by: Acknowledging and uncovering my sin, repenting and turning away.  
I need to connect to God by: Seeking him and believing and loving his truth.  
Power, Nature, Evil

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

#### FREED FROM THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH

1. The battle between the Spirit and the sinful nature, God's law vs. the law of sin
2. We're too weak. We don't have the power.
3. God's law
4. Law of sin
5. Those who are in Christ Jesus.
6. Because Jesus was our sin offering.
7. Jesus, the Spirit of life, The Spirit has divine power, we don't.
8. The Spirit, holy, sanctified
9. Jesus Christ, By his meeting the righteous requirement of the law, by his being a sacrifice for our sin
10. No, We don't have the resources or power, By believing in the sacrifice of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit in me.

#### DELIVERED AND NOT CONDEMNED

1. (a) yes (b) no (c) Christ paid the penalty  
Keyword: Justification
2. (a) yes (b) the Holy Spirit working in me  
Keyword: Sanctification

# LESSON THREE ANSWERS

## OUR PART IN OUR HOLINESS

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

#### LESSON ONE

1. Separation + Connection= holiness
2. Good works, being fully useful, able to function the way we were designed to function.

#### LESSON TWO

1. Those who are being made holy.
2. Penalty of sin.
3. The power of sin.

#### LESSON FOCUS

1. No. Everyone doesn't recognize a need for what God wants to give us.
2. We believe we need it and appropriate it because he gives it.

#### THE BATTLE TO BELIEVE

1. The battle for faith, believing God. Is God really trustworthy? Is his way best?
2. All kinds of promises vying for our faith. Thinking something other than God will satisfy.  
We lack faith. We don't trust God

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### BELIEVING IN THE GIFT

1. The whole world, everyone.
2. No
3. Whoever believes in him.
4. They love something else, darkness. They think something else is better.
5. Believe God and obey him. We act in accordance with the truth.

#### PUTTING OUR FAITH IN THE TRUTH

1. Belief in the truth. God chooses us and works in us but we must believe.
  2. We do it by God's grace.
- No. Our inclination is toward our flesh and the deceptive things we think will satisfy. It doesn't immediately satisfy. It is a long road to get where you want to go.

#### FIGHTING THE FIGHT OF FAITH

1. Because it isn't easy to believe and follow God. Our flesh, the world and Satan war against it.
2. Flesh, evil desires in us. The world, deceptive ideas. Satan, author of lies.

#### EXPERIENCING THE POWER OF FAITH

1 John 5:4-5

1. The son of God. Jesus Christ and his divinity.
2. Overcome the world. Our faith is the vehicle to overcome what would enslave us.

Hebrews 11:6

1. By our faith.
2. Through good works.
3. He rewards us with salvation and abundant life.

# LESSON THREE ANSWERS

## OUR PART IN OUR HOLINESS

### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### THE EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL

1. Fight, flee or surrender.
2. We are defeated.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

#### THE EXAMPLE OF PETER AND PENTECOST

Matthew 26:69-75.

1. He denied Christ three times. He was trusting in himself and his own strength, which failed when it met opposition.

Acts 4:1-22

2. He spoke with power and boldness. He wasn't afraid of the authorities. He could witness without fear of opposition.
3. The authorities recognized their courage and the fact they had been with Jesus.
4. Weak and ineffective, he would never have been able to impact the world through increasing faith.

# LESSON FOUR ANSWERS

## THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

#### LESSONS 1-3

1. Those who are being made holy.
2. Christ's work on the cross delivered us from the penalty of sin.
3. The Holy Spirit is delivering us from the power of sin.
4. Separation from sin and connection to God = increasing holiness.

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### THE FOUNDATION OF HOLINESS

2 Peter 1:3

1. Everything we need for life and godliness.
2. To live rightly.
3. God's divine power. Everything we need to act right.  
God's divine power.
4. We want to be God. We think we can get it on our own. We don't realize we need it.  
We don't want to depend on God.
5. Through knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

John 14:16-18

6. The Holy Spirit.

#### THE CALLING TO HOLINESS

1. God's divine power
2. His very great and precious promises.
3. Salvation through Christ. (Justification, Sanctification and Glorification)
4. So we can participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world.
5. Participate in divine nature=connection. Escape corruption=separation.
6. Evil desires.
7. Our own hearts, sinful nature.
8. God's divine nature.
9. Salvation through Christ-the precious promise.

#### THE DEMONSTRATION OF HOLINESS

1. Holiness (godly character)
2. Difficult ones. We know we need God's power to get through them.

#### THE RESULT AND VALUE OF HOLINESS

1. We function correctly in accordance with our design. We become effective and productive.  
We are useful to God for his purposes.
2. What we once were and that Christ has cleansed us from them.
3. You probably would not see them or your need to be cleansed from them, would focus on outside evil.
4. Ineffective and unproductive. Satan. Because we are not useful to God.
5. We will never fall and we will receive a rich welcome into heaven.
6. We are continually connected to Christ and growing in holiness.
7. (Answers will vary.)
8. (Answers will vary.)

# LESSON FOUR ANSWERS

## THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

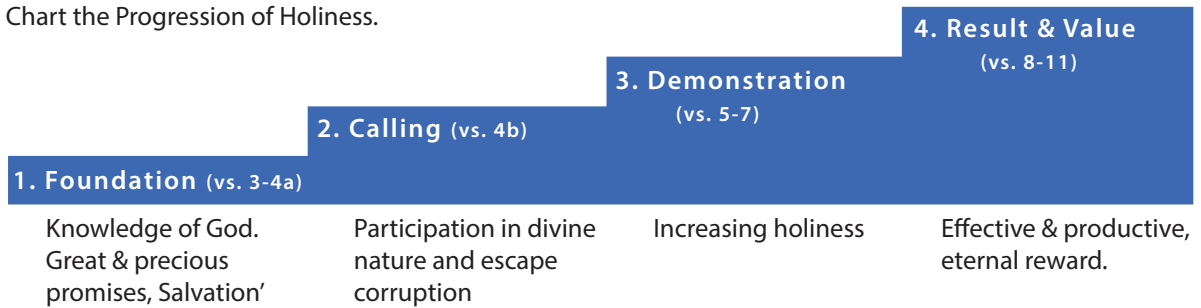
### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

1. Fill in the blanks below.

Knowledge of God comes through God's calling by his glory and goodness, which enables us to receive his divine power through which he gives his very great and precious promises so that we can participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. Through participation in his divine nature we are therefore able to increase in holiness which makes us effective and productive and means we will never fall and ultimately receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2. Chart the Progression of Holiness.



#### INCREASING HOLINESS

1. There would be no improvement or demonstration of our faith.
2. We wouldn't know what to believe or do. We'd be easily deceived.
3. We would continually fall into sin and dishonor God.
4. We would give up every time we failed or were persecuted.
5. We would endure on our own strength rather than through a connection to God. We wouldn't experience joy and delight in what we do.
6. We would fail to bless others through service to the body.
7. We'd only serve those we have a natural affection for. We'd fail to show God's love to the world. We wouldn't be any different from non-Christians.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

#### THE PROGRESSION OF DEPRAVITY

1. Suppress it by their wickedness. It's a rejection of the knowledge of God.
2. God has made himself clear through his creation.

THE STEPS OF DEPRAVITY		
STEPS	MAN'S EVIL ACTION	CONSEQUENCE OF ACTION
1	Suppress the truth. Do not glorify or give thanks to God	Thinking becomes futile and hearts are darkened.
2	Claims to be wise. Exchanges glory of God for idols, truth for lie, worship and serves created things.	God gives them over to their sinful desires, shameful lusts.
3	Homosexuality, exchanges natural relations for unnatural.	Receive in their bodies the due penalty of their sin.
4	Retains no knowledge of God.	Given over to a depraved mind, full of every kind of evil.

# LESSON FOUR ANSWERS

## THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

### COMPARING THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS & DEPRAVITY

PROGRESSION OF BELIEF		
	STEPS OF DEPRAVITY	INCREASING HOLINESS
	ROMANS 1:18-32	2 Peter 1:3-11
<b>BELIEVE</b>	Futile foolish thoughts, lies, deception.	Everything we need for life and godliness is found in God's divine power.
<b>LOVE</b>	Created things, world	His glory and goodness. His great and precious promises, connection to him, his divine power.
<b>OBEY</b>	Sinful desires, degradation indecent acts.	Increasing holiness through connection to God.
<b>RESULT</b>	Depraved mind, death	Effectiveness and reward.

# LESSON FIVE ANSWERS

## THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

#### LESSON 1-3

Separation and connection = holiness

#### LESSON 4

1. Everything we need for life and godliness.
2. Humble, reverent attitude toward God.
3. We are effective and productive. We will never fall and will receive a rich welcome into God's kingdom.

#### LESSON FOCUS

1. Love, mercy, long-suffering, forgiving, unchanging, sovereign, etc.
2. Love. The essence of God's holiness is his love.

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### THE ESSENCE OF GOD'S HOLY CHARACTER

1. Love is the very core of who God is.
2. Harsh and without remedy.
3. Weak, mercy without accountability.
4. Unattainable, cold, untouchable.

#### THE ESSENCE OF LOVE

The sacrificial giving of his Son.

#### THE ESSENCE OF WICKEDNESS

Self-centeredness.

#### THE CALL TO PUT ON LOVE

1. Holy and dearly loved.
2. Love
3. Binds them together in perfect unity.
4. ILLUSTRATION - THE UNITY OF LOVE
  - a. Seams, zippers, buttons, etc.
  - b. The clothes would be useless, they wouldn't be useable.

#### THE CHARACTERISTICS OF LOVE

Action. All the words that describe it are something that you do or something you never do. Sacrificial giving has to be done through an action.

### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### THE CONNECTION BETWEEN OUR LOVE AND GOD'S LOVE

Dear friends, let us selflessly give to one another, for selfless giving comes from God. Everyone who selflessly gives has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not selflessly give does not know God, because God is a selfless giver. This is how God showed his selfless giving among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is selfless giving: not that we selflessly gave to God, but that he selflessly gave to us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so selflessly gave to us, we also ought to selflessly give to one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we selflessly give to one another, God lives in us and his selfless giving is made complete in us.



# LESSON FIVE ANSWERS

## THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS

### REMEMBER:

The ability to give selflessly comes from God. If we are able to give selflessly we have been born of God. If we know God we are able to selflessly give. If we don't know God then we are not able to give selflessly. If we are able to give selflessly to others then God lives in us and his selfless giving is made complete in us. If we have no connection with selfless giving we have no connection to God. If we are connected to selfless giving we are then connected to God..

PUTTING ON LOVE CHART		
IF I PUT ON...	I WILL SEPARATE FROM...	I WILL CONNECT BY...
<b>Patience - Psalm 37:7</b> <i>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.</i>	Worry, pushing head on my own.	Waiting for the Lord to work, being still.
<b>Kindness - Romans 15:1-2</b> <i>We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.</i>	Pleasing myself	Wanting good for others, building up others, bearing with failings of others.
<b>Gratitude - 1 Thess. 5:16-18</b> <i>Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.</i>	Ingratitude. Whining, discontent, complaining.	Praying continually and giving thanks in all circumstances.
<b>Humility - 2 Corinthians 3:5</b> <i>Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.</i>	Pride, self-sufficiency.	Knowing that all I have is from God, understanding.
<b>Respect - Matthew 7:12a</b> <i>So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.</i>	Vain conceit, selfish ambition.	Considering others more than myself.
<b>Self-sacrifice - Philippians 2:4</b> <i>Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.</i>	Self-centeredness.	Looking to the needs of others.
<b>Self-control - Romans 13:14</b> <i>Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.</i>	Thinking about sinful desires.	Clothe myself with Jesus.
<b>Forgiveness - Colossians 3:13</b> <i>Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.</i>	Unforgiveness, grievances, taking offense.	Forgiving as God forgives me. Bearing with others.
<b>Godliness - 1 Timothy 6:11</b> <i>But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.</i>	Godlessness, things that are not of God.	Pursue God and his righteousness.
<b>Protectiveness - Luke 17:1</b> <i>Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come.</i>	Things that cause other people to sin.	Doing what is right and protects others. Considering how what I do affects others.
<b>Trust - Proverbs 3:5-6a</b> <i>Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him.</i>	Leaning on own understanding.	Trusting the Lord and acknowledging him.
<b>Hope - Hebrews 10:23</b> <i>Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.</i>	Wrong thinking, discouragement, doubt.	Holding on to the eternal hope I have in Jesus, his faithfulness.
<b>Faithfulness - 2 Timothy 2:10</b> <i>Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.</i>	Giving up.	Enduring through Christ, having an eternal perspective.

# LESSON FIVE ANSWERS

THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

### THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOVE AND GREAT DEEDS

1. Nothing
2. Sacrificial selfless giving for the good of others, not thinking of self.
3. God
4. God

## PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE

### SELF-EXAMINATION

#### EXAMINING SELF SACRIFICE

- d) To be filled more with Christ and reflect him more fully.
- e) We'd be more effective and productive and we'd be more content and joyful.

Other answers are personal.

# LESSON SIX ANSWERS

## THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

#### LESSON ONE

1. Separation from evil and connection to Christ.
2. Satan, flesh, world

#### LESSON TWO

1. Penalty
2. Power

#### LESSON THREE

Belief, faith

#### LESSON FOUR

1. Everything we need for life and godliness.
2. Humble, reverent, pious
3. Effective and productive. Never fall and receive a rich welcome.

#### LESSON FIVE

1. Love
2. Sacrificial selfless giving.
3. Self-absorption

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

1. Set your heart and mind on things above.
2. Put to death the earthly nature.
3. Put on the new self.
4. Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart.
5. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
6. Do everything in the name of Jesus.

### THINKING IT THROUGH

#### PRINCIPLE ONE

1. To focus on God and his purposes not on ourselves and our circumstances.
2. Our spirits are directed upward. We find joy, peace, contentment. We are willing to do God's will. We have an eternal perspective. We trust in things we can't see.
3. Example: Paul chose to go to Jerusalem even though he knew he would suffer there. He didn't let the hardships he was to face deter him from what he was called to do.

#### PRINCIPLE TWO

1. Die to self and sinful desires; not think about how to gratify the sinful nature. Uncover and confess sin.
2. We will be able to walk in the Spirit. We will be able to connect to God. Participate in divine nature.
3. Example: Those who come to Christ confessed and burned their books on sorcery, something that had great monetary value. They got rid of what they previously held onto.

# LESSON SIX ANSWERS

## THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

### PRINCIPLE THREE

1. You clothe yourself with Jesus. Walk in the spirit (new nature). It doesn't just happen, it's an action. Every day we put something on.
2. We will respond correctly in all circumstances. We will honor God.
3. Example: Gaius was a walking demonstration of truth.

### PRINCIPLE FOUR

1. When we experience a lack of peace it is like Christ is calling us out and we need to find where we went wrong.
2. We won't let sin separate us from God as we will know when we are out of order and will quickly recognize separation.
3. Example: David immediately was aware of his sin and confessed it. Guilt was a consequence of sin.

### PRINCIPLE FIVE

1. Our minds are completely filled with God's truth. It is what energizes us. Our meditation is on him.
2. We are wise. We know the way we should go. We can recognize deception and choose the right way.
3. Example: They devoted themselves to the truth and the result was community of giving believers.

### PRINCIPLE SIX

1. We are Christ's ambassadors, serving his purposes on earth. Everything we say and do reflects on him either positively or negatively.
2. Christ will be recognized and honored.
3. Example: They didn't take credit for the healing.

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

### THE BENEFITS OF FOLLOWING THE PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

1.
  - #1 Wouldn't be discouraged. Keeps focus on eternal purposes. Is not dragged down by circumstances.
  - #2 Walks in the spirit, not in darkness. Is connected to God, wouldn't be pulled by desires. Wouldn't cause conflict with others.
  - #3 Demonstrates the character of Christ. Lives out the Gospel. Attitude of love, servant heart. Fruit of the Spirit is evident.
  - #4 Quick to be convicted of and confess sin. Maintains a connection to Christ. Confidence in what is doing.
  - #5 Knows and applies truth. Recognizes deception. Wise. Stands against worldly thinking.
  - #6 Brings honor and glory to God. Right motives for what is doing.
2. Yes  
This person is in right order and lives out the truth. It is the way God designed us to be. Having a temporal perspective, allowing sin to break my connection to Christ; not hungering after God and his truth.

# LESSON SEVEN ANSWERS

## A HOLINESS EVALUATION

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

- #1 Set your heart and mind on things above.
- #2 Put to death the earthly nature.
- #3 Put on the new self.
- #4 Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart.
- #5 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
- #6 Do everything in the name of Jesus.

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

1. That which is produced by the Spirit working in our lives.
2. What we believe and love and therefore obey.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FRUIT

1. By our fruit.  
The result of our lives (our actions) shows the reality of what we believe. Fruit has actions that are visible.
2. It will be thrown into the fire.  
Its destiny is hell, separation from God. Final judgment shows what is inside.
3. That a person loves the world and is living a life separate from God (not walking in the Spirit).  
We are not saved by works but we will be judged by our works because they show what is in us.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

#### REVIEW THE RULES FOR HOLY LIVING

1. Set your heart and mind on things above (what our life is focused on)  
Affects mostly: Patience, faithfulness, forbearance- Able to persevere through whatever comes your way.
2. Put to death the earthly nature (where we seek gratification)  
Affects mostly: Self-control
3. Put on the new self (what our character is like)  
Affects mostly: compassion, kindness, forgiveness, gentleness – We put off the old to maintain a connection to Christ. If we're putting on Christ then we have to take him off in order to go wrong.
4. Let the peace of Christ rule in you heart (how we respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit)  
Affects mostly: peace, joy – When we lack it we usually ask what's wrong with others rather than what's wrong with me.
5. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (what informs our mind)  
Affects mostly: goodness – Need to know what's wrong to do and what's right.
6. Do everything in the name of Jesus (way we live life)  
Affects mostly: love, humility – Here to do God's purposes. Are the things I am saying and doing glorifying God?

# LESSON EIGHT ANSWERS

## HOLINESS EXEMPLIFIED

### INTRODUCTION

#### REVIEW

##### LESSON ONE – WHAT IS HOLINESS?

1. Separation + connection = holiness
2. World, flesh and Satan. If we conquer the flesh the others have no power.
3. Good works, noble purposes.

##### LESSON TWO – GOD’S PART IN OUR HOLINESS

1. Those who are being made holy.
2. Delivered from the penalty of sin. (Made perfect)
3. Being delivered from the power of sin. (Being made holy)

##### LESSON THREE – OUR PART IN OUR HOLINESS

1. Faith
2. Trust God to do his part. Overcome doubt and a lack of faith.

##### LESSON FOUR – THE PROGRESSION OF HOLINESS

1. Everything we need for life and godliness.
2. We will be effective and productive, never fall and receive a rich welcome.

##### LESSON FIVE – LOVE, THE ESSENCE OF HOLINESS

1. Selfless, sacrificial giving.
2. Self-absorption
3. We separate from our own sinful nature and desires and connect to God.

##### LESSON SIX – PRINCIPLES FOR HOLY LIVING

- #1 Set your heart and mind on things above.
- #2 Put to death the earthly nature.
- #3 Put on the new self.
- #4 Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart.
- #5 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
- #6 Do all in the name of Jesus.

##### LESSON SEVEN – A HOLINESS EVALUATION

1. Good fruit, fruit of the Spirit
2. There’s a problem with the growing conditions, a lack of connection to the vine.

### SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

#### WE ARE CALLED TO BE LIKE GOD

1. God.
2. A life of love.
3. God has told us to and Christ sacrificed himself so we would be able to.
4. Through a connection to Christ.

# LESSON EIGHT ANSWERS

## HOLINESS EXEMPLIFIED

### THINKING IT THROUGH

1. **LOVE** – Desire to benefit another through sacrificial giving of oneself
  - Love does what is right for everyone even at personal cost and regardless of whether there is natural affection or not. Love is an action, not an intention.
  - Showing love to others maintains our connection to Christ and his love and joy.
  - My showing love to others really demonstrates the reality of my relationship with Christ. I gain Christ's joy by loving others.
2. **JOY** - A deep, abiding inner rejoicing
  - What happened to Paul and Silas didn't break their connection to God. In the midst of suffering they sought him in prayer and worship.
  - Christ's greatest joy was in seeing the Father's will come to pass, sinners who come to repentance.
  - Whatever the circumstances in my life I can experience joy if I am connected to Christ. That which will give me the greatest joy is doing the Father's will.
3. **PEACE** - An inner rest and well being, even in external adversity
  - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were secure in who they were in God and who God was and the circumstances they were in didn't change their perspective.
  - Jesus has given us his Spirit so that we don't need to be troubled or afraid. His Spirit will remind us of what we need to know and do.
  - I need to recognize that God never changes and I shouldn't let my circumstances change my view of him. His Spirit will give me what I need when I need it.
4. **PATIENCE** - Long suffering, holding back retaliation against someone who has wronged you
  - We need to recognize that we will suffer and be persecuted and if we depend on the Lord he will see us through our suffering.
  - Jesus didn't respond when he was attacked, he just put himself in God's hands.
  - First I need to expect suffering and not let it change the way I respond. I need to commit myself to the Lord and trust he will do the necessary work in me so I will respond correctly.
5. **KINDNESS** - Mild, gracious, friendly, opposite of harsh
  - The friends cared so much about the condition of their friend that they persisted until they got him to Jesus.
  - In Jesus' kindness we find rest for our souls.
  - If I should persist and show kindness to others so that they might be led to Jesus and find rest for their souls.
6. **GOODNESS** - Functioning well in a moral sense; good character expressed in useful action
  - The goodness of Dorcas caused other to truly mourn her passing. She had kept people clothed.
  - Jesus is the good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep.
  - Goodness is demonstrated in action. If I am right with Christ I will do what is good and right for others.
7. **FAITHFULNESS** - Trustworthy, reliable
  - Abraham was faithful to do what God had called him to do because he focused on God's faithfulness.
  - Jesus can only be faithful.
  - It is Christ's faithfulness that enables me to be faithful. I need to focus on him and his character, not my circumstances.
8. **GENTLENESS** - Soothing disposition, meekness from strength
  - Joseph, instead of bringing everyone's attention to what he perceived Mary had done, was going to deal with it in a way that wouldn't harm Mary.
  - To others the children were inconsequential, but Jesus reached out to them to draw them to himself.
  - Those who have done wrong or "may not be worthy of my time," deserve the same kindness or attention that would be extended to anyone else.

# LESSON EIGHT ANSWERS

## HOLINESS EXEMPLIFIED

9. **SELF CONTROL** - Self mastery, curbing sensual impulses
- Joseph didn't want to sin against God and therefore would not even get near that which might cause him to fall. He lived under his accountability to God. He was a slave to righteousness.
  - He countered each temptation with the word of God.
  - I am accountable to God and under his authority I need to live in his presence. I need to be filled with his truth and apply it to my life and be a slave to righteousness. If God's word is controlling me then I will be under his control. I won't be easily swayed.
10. **COMPASSION** - Tender sympathy toward suffering
- Pharaoh's daughter felt sorry for the baby. She recognized that he had a need and did what she could to solve the problem that was laid at her feet.
  - Jesus entered into the grief of others, even though he knew what he was going to do. He experienced their pain.
  - Compassion should move me to action. I need for my own sake to embrace suffering so that I know what others need.
11. **HUMILITY** – Free of pride and dependent upon God
- Isaiah recognized the holiness of God and saw himself for who he was. He didn't let the revelation puff him up, but rather fell on his face.
  - Christ made himself a servant even though he was God.
  - I need to recognize who God is and who I am in relationship to him. I must be willing to lower myself to serve others.
12. **FORBEARANCE** - To bear with, endure one another
- Barnabas gave Mark another chance. He didn't give up on him.
  - Jesus didn't reject Saul who had been his enemy. He showed forbearance and called him to do his work.
  - I should never completely shut the door on someone. I cannot take offense. I need to have mercy. I have to put up with others as Christ puts up with me.
13. **FORGIVENESS** - To bestow favor unconditionally, show grace by forgiving any complaints against another
- Stephen forgave those who were killing him.
  - Jesus forgave those who were killing him.
  - If I have Christ's Spirit in me I will be able to forgive others whatever the offense. I should be able to forgive whatever minor transgressions others do to me.

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

### THINKING AND DOING WHAT'S RIGHT

1. Good and right things, that which is of God. Things that are excellent or praise worthy. We are not to dwell on what is evil or wrong but love the truth of God. It takes intentionality to think about what is good.
2. Put it into practice.  
We have to act on what we're taught. We have to make our actions automatic through continual practice and dwelling on what is right.
3. The peace of God will be with us. We will experience God's presence in every circumstance.





