

Holiness Study #6

How Should Our Fellowship/Church, and Ultimately the Church Embody Holy Lives to the Rest of the World?

Holiness: A condition of purity or freedom from sin or of being set apart to special service.

God's Holiness: God's separateness from all else and particularly from all evil.

Intro: What do you think is your reputation among unbelievers?

With an emphasis on God's call and character and Christ's redeeming work, Peter begins reminding us that God's call was to a holy way of life, especially in our communal relationships.

1 Peter 1:1-25

Question #1: Verse 13 begins with "therefore," indicating that everything that precedes this verse is the basis for what Peter will say next. What is the difference between conforming to the desires of ignorance (v. 14) and being holy in all you do (vv. 15-16)?

Question #2: How do you see people at SVAC being redeemed by perishable things (v. 18) versus the blood of Christ (v. 19)? What should change?

1 Peter 2:1-10

Question #3: In verse 9, Peter rattles off a list of communal descriptors of the church. What do these images imply about how we should view ourselves, other Christians, and the church as a whole? How do they challenge or affirm your practice of community?

Question #4: What "dark-to-light" (v. 9) changes are occurring in your heart and life that you could share with others?

1 Peter 2:11-25

Question #5: According to verses 11-12, why should you keep your conduct honorable? What struggles have you experienced in trying to do this?

Question #6: The New Testament concept of submission can be difficult for people to grasp. Why is this command given to us (v. 14)? How does this tie in with being holy?

Application:

There are many ways that we can improve in living as God's holy people. In what ways do you think we can work on as a fellowship, SVAC and overall church?