

Remember last week, we started with this text and the concept of the holiness of God. 1 Peter 1:15,16 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; because it is written, “You shall be holy , for I am holy .”

-Any lingering thoughts or experiences to share from your week about God’s holiness?

This week we shift from His holiness to our holiness.

-What are your initial thoughts when you think about being holy as He is? (intimidated, hopeful, unrealistic, in pursuit, etc)

Scott started with the concept that holiness in our lives will require the elimination of things. Hebrews 12:1-3 was the text. Take another look at it together.

-Do you have “bulk” (encumbrances) that need to go? What are those you are currently aware of? What are some that you have already eliminated?

-What about sin issues? What are issues of disobedience that you have already forsaken and are currently enjoying freedom from? What are some that still need to go?

We looked at Psalm 15 to find a balance between those negative factors that need to be eliminated and the positive behaviors that need to be included.

-Are there matters of being like Jesus that you believe the Holy Spirit has already been prompting you to incorporate? What are those?

Scott shared an excerpt from an article that had convicted his heart. Take a look at it and see what might jump out at you.

### **Excerpts from “LESSONS FROM A HOLY MAN” by Mark Yaconelli**

Holiness is about our capacity for compassion.

To be holy in ministry is to accept fully who you are. No pretending. No hiding. Confess what is broken, without shame. Confess what is gifted in you, without false modesty.

To be holy in ministry is to like people. To struggle to see the humanity of people, the divine spark within those we’re drawn to as well as those who irritate and repulse us. To enjoy the company of people—even people who are strange or different.

To be holy is to struggle to feel compassion for others. It means trying to see the world through another person's eyes. It means struggling to find what's likeable, what's good, what's vulnerable in another—even if that person appears violent, mean, or troubled.

To be holy is to feel blessed. It means to live the Christian life, not as a burden, but as a way of life that's open and receptive to all the gifts of love that God and other people offer us.

Finally, to be holy is to enjoy the moments we get alone with God. It means that we fall into prayer during those moments. It means we fall back into the One who loves the world into being.

Let's close by praying a prayer crafted from 1 Peter 1:15,16 for each other

- Acknowledge His holiness
- Thank Him for His calling of you
- Confess any behaviors/attitudes that are not holy
- Ask Him for an unquenchable desire to experience more of His holiness

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