

A/ Teaching

Bible Material – 1 Peter 1v13 - 2v12

[Illustration: sand in car, dirt in apartment or restaurant]

Centrality of Holiness (Revelation 4v8)

- Greek “hagios” = pure, blameless, consecrated
- Hebrew “qadash” = clean, pure, consecrated
- Out of Eden to separate from Tree of Life (Genesis 3v21-24, Revelation 22v14)
- Holy/Clean/Unclean categories in OT (Leviticus 10v10)
- Requirement to approach God (Psalm 24v3-4)
- Command (1 Peter 1v15)

⇒ Am I taking this seriously?

Christ the “Holy One of God” (John 6v69)

- Makes / Declares people Holy (Ephesians 5v26, Hebrews 10v10,14,19)
- Access to Father – I am the Gate, Resurrection, Life (John 10v7,11v25, Hebrews 10v19-22)

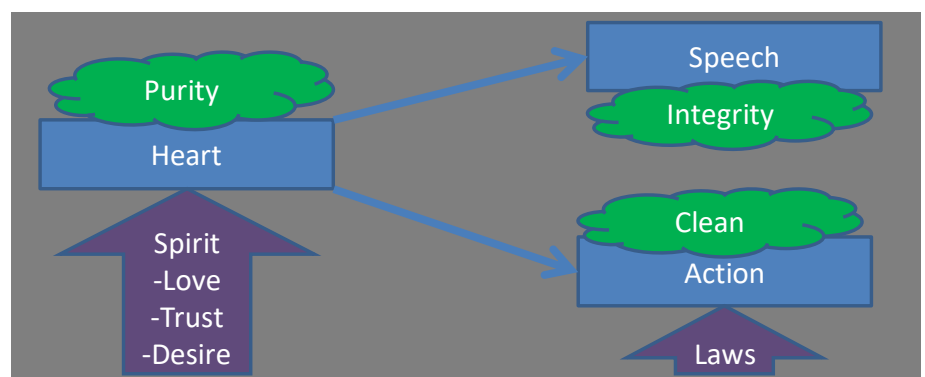
⇒ Am I holy?

Temple of Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6v19) - enables holy living

- Make Him Comfortable (Ephesians 4v30)
- Conform to His way – like Christ (Galatians 5v22-25)
- Honour God by living as His masterpiece (Ephesians 2v10)
- How?

Practical Holiness

- Dimensions :
moral, social,
justice, & material
- Based on purity of heart:



- Love for God – “Be transformed by renewing of mind” (Romans 12v2)
 - Versus “lovers of themselves, money, pleasure” (2 Timothy 3v1-5)
- Trust in God – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart” (Proverbs 3v5)
 - Versus “Did God really say?” (Genesis 3v1)
- Desires in line with God’s – “Live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature” (Galatians 5v16)

B/ Personal Reflection & Development - Materials available

Some of the following may help you reflect on these things further:

- Meditate on the following passages, thinking about why holiness is so important to God:
 - Exodus 3v1-6
 - Isaiah 6v1-7
 - Revelation 4
 - Exodus 19v16-25
 - Ezekiel 22
 - Revelation 21v1-8,22-27
 - Deuteronomy 14v1-21
 - Zechariah 14
 - 1 Peter 1v13-2v12
 - Psalm 24
- Think through and write down all the things which you love, trust and desire using the boxes below:

These are the things I tend to ...		
Love	Trust	Desire
The people, causes or things I serve or commit to ...	Who or what I listen to, take note of, rely on and act on ...	Who or what I seek/want/aspire to / dream of... today or for future ...

- Songs to help you meditate on this theme
 - Holy, Holy, Holy (traditional hymn)
 - Immortal, Invisible, God only wise (traditional hymn)
 - Be still for the presence of the Lord
 - Before the throne of God above
 - Is he worthy? (Chris Tomlin)
 - Purify my heart (Refiners Fire)
- Key Bible verses to memorise and meditate on:
 - 1 Peter 1v15-16
- Further study:
 - 'Pursuit of Holiness' by Jerry Bridges
 - 'Holiness' by JI Packer
 - 'Desiring God' by John Piper

Reflect on some of the "Small Team" and "Pair/Triplet" material before meeting.

C/ Small Team (1 hour 15mins + worship)

- Worship
- Summary of “Bible Material” (5 mins)
- Talk Questions (15 mins)
 - Read 1 Peter 1v13-2v12
 - What part does holiness play in the Christian message?
 - What has Jesus done for us with regards to being ‘holy’?
 - Why does the Spirit often have the title ‘Holy’?
 - Why are temples treated with respect? What does this mean for us who have the Holy Spirit?
- Summary of “Practical” (5 mins)
- Practical Questions (30 mins)
 - The role of Law (see Romans 3v19-24)
 - What can law do?
 - What can law not do?
 - In what ways might my personal holiness show itself with regards to:
 - Morality, Justice, Social, Material things
 - Home, Work/study, Neighbourhood, Family, Shopping, Money ...
 - The role of our hearts
 - Is it correct to say that what we love, trust and desire (see table opposite) determines what we do and how we do it?
 - What do I tend to love (commit to / serve) most?
 - What do I tend to trust (rely on, listen to) most?
 - What do I tend to desire (dream of, pursue) most?
 - The role of the Holy Spirit
 - How does the Holy Spirit change us?
 - Give your heart issues to God
 - Ask God to fill you with his Spirit so that you love, trust and desire nothing more than him!
- Pray together (20 mins)
 - Thank God that he has made you holy.
 - Ask for the holiness of the Holy Spirit.
 - Pray for your “*list-of-5*” – and for your love, trust and desire to be wholesome in this!

D/ Pair/Triplet (40 mins)

- Share and Discuss together (15 mins)
 - Share encouragements you have had from bible reading / prayer / worship.
 - Share about your struggles with fleshly/worldly/sinful desires.
 - Share about areas you feel you fall short of God's call.
- Slowly read a passage from the Bible together (this could be one that one of you has read during the week or Psalm 24). (15 mins)
 - What does the Psalm say about God?
 - What does it say about us?
 - What does the Psalm say about being with God rather than against him?
- Pray together (10 mins)
 - Give thanks and pray for one another based on the Bible passage and your discussion.
 - Pray for your "list-of-5".