

BIG IDEA

Holiness is about being close to Jesus, not far from others.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Who is the holiest person you have ever known? What makes them holy in your eyes?

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16. What stands out to you in this passage?

Think of all the stories you know about Jesus. What kind of “holy” is Jesus? What can you learn from his example?

It is clear in the gospels that Jesus’ holiness attracted “sinners” to him (Matthew 11:19, Luke 5:29, Luke 15:2). If our desire to be perfect, sinless or “holy” makes unbelievers feel unwelcomed by us, then we may need to do some re-evaluating. Jesus shows us that it is possible to be holy without totally distancing yourself from those who are struggling with sin.

How does this week’s big idea challenge your understanding of holiness?

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Do you really believe that holiness is an option for you? Why or why not?

In the LG Vimeo this week, Jeremy talks about “white knuckling” our holiness. When we take this approach to our relationship with Jesus, we will end up feeling hopeless because we will never be “holy” in our own power. When we shift our focus to Jesus and use our energy to get close to him, we can start to receive our holiness from him and no longer feel the need to manufacture it for ourselves.

Read the following quote. *“Holiness does not consist in doing extraordinary things. It consists in accepting with a smile, what Jesus sends us. It consists in accepting and following the will of God.”* – Mother Theresa

Do you agree with this quote? Why or why not?

Read Romans 12:2. What attitudes in your heart (or mind) have you allowed to conform to the pattern of this world? How are these attitudes robbing you of hope? How might Jesus be leading you to change in this area?

Read Hebrews 10:14. How does this passage give you hope for holiness?



WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Read 1 Peter 1:17-19. Do you live like a foreigner? Or are you “at home” in this world? How can you tell?

Is your life “good news” to those around you? How so?

It is one thing to tell people about Jesus. It is a totally different thing to live in such a way that would make people want to get to know Him!

How often do you ask yourself the question: “What is required of me in this moment to live out the Gospel?” Will you give someone in your group permission to hold you accountable for doing that this week?

Living out the gospel is what all believers are called to do. It is a simple command that can be difficult to follow on a consistent basis. This is why accountability is so important. When we partner with Jesus AND other believers, our pathway to holiness becomes even more hope-filled.

