

## APPLICATION

- What have you learned about holiness from today’s lesson, and what will you do about it this week?
- How can you live a holy life every day? What is God’s grace teaching you to say no to and how will you do it?
- How can you grow in your understanding of who God is? In what area do you need to adjust your understanding of God, maybe because of culture or society?

## PRAYER

- Thank God for who He is—holy, loving, merciful, gracious, and kind. Thank Him for making you holy in Christ. Pray that you will know and love God more as each day passes.
- Thank God for empowering you to live a holy life. Pray that you will live a *self-controlled, upright, and godly* life every day.
- Pray that your life will be an example to your family and friends, so that they, too, will honor God with their lives.



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**WEEK 1**

# A Holy Life

## NOTES

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## WARM-UP

- What comes to mind when you hear the word “holy”? Why?
- What’s one impossible situation you’ve faced? How did you overcome it?
- Tell us about one of your cherished family traditions. What did you do and do you still do it today?

**WORD**

<sup>8</sup>. . . share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began . . . **2 TIMOTHY 1:8,9**

When Jesus died on the cross for us, He didn't just want to save us. He wanted us to live in a way that will please God. He *called* us to a holy calling because God desires for us to live holy lives. Because we know we cannot do this on our own, we sometimes settle for regular attempts at holiness. We may repent weekly or do penance annually to try to become holy, for one week in a year. However, God desires that we live holy for Him 365 days in a year and He knows we cannot do this on our own. That's why He sent Jesus to save us and empower us to be holy. In this lesson, we will learn three statements about God's holiness.

**1 God is holy.**

. . . since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." **1 PETER 1:16**

God is holy—perfect, unblemished, without sin or error. No one else is like Him. This is His character, and it defines everything He does. According to this verse, why should we *be holy*? How are we—in our sinfulness—so different from our holy God?

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**2 God has made us holy.**

*And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.* **HEBREWS 10:10**

Through Christ's death on the cross, God provided a way for us to be made holy. To be sanctified is to be made holy, to be washed and cleansed, and to become like Him. We can never become holy through our actions and efforts. We can only become holy because of Jesus' sacrifice and finished work on the cross. How is our cultural perception of holiness different from God's? How do you think some of us try to become holy on our own?

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**3 God has empowered us to live holy lives.**

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age . . . **TITUS 2:11,12**

God, in His abundant saving grace, teaches us to say no to sin and yes to godliness. Though we will always fall short of God's holy standard on our own, by His grace and because of His work, He trains and empowers us to turn away from *ungodliness* and *worldly passions* and live in a way that pleases Him. Why do you think the Apostle Paul emphasized that we can live *godly lives in the present age*? How can we live pure and holy lives for God here and now?

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