

2021 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

June 20

Pastor Cory's Father's Day message was on the idea of "Being Holy." Holiness is a word that means "Set Apart", akin to the word "Sanctification". Peter instructed us in 1 Peter 1: 13-15 to be Holy as God is Holy. Being a dad is a life transforming experience and our pursuit of being a God honoring Dad can feel daunting but is worth the pursuit. As Father's (and all Followers of Christ) this is a lifelong pursuit; and as Dads, our desire is to be more like Jesus, as we allow the Holy Spirit to live His life through us. Through perseverance, we will become better Fathers and Followers of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Community Prayer:

Lord, you instructed us to come to you as little children with the expectation that you as our Father will lead us and guide us into all truth, meet all of our needs according to your riches in glory, and teach us how to honor you through obeying your Word. As earthly fathers you have given us a model to follow, help us to be the kind of Father's that would honor you and be a blessing to our families; in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Opening Questions

1. What qualities in your father are most memorable to you as a child and as an adult?
 - a. What qualities did you bring forward in your relationship with your children?
 - b. What qualities did you leave behind?

EXPLORATION

Read the passages below...what can you learn about what it means to follow Jesus from these passages? (Have someone read from their bible)

1 Peter 1: 3-9

2. How did our Heavenly Father bless you through His Son Jesus Christ?
3. What is the "Living Hope" that God the Father gave you?
4. What is the inheritance that the father has in store for you?
5. What allows you to persevere in the middle of all the trials we have seen over the last year?

1 Peter 1: 13-15

6. What does it mean for you to be "sober minded"?
7. How is God's grace preparing you for the future?
8. How does obedience show up in your life today?



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9. How do you safeguard yourself from returning to the former lusts you had before becoming a follower of Jesus? How does holiness help in this area? (Be specific...what safeguards do you have in place)

Isaiah 6: 1-5

10. What resonates with you when you hear the Seraphim say: "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory?"
11. As a Father, how does this motivate you to be a more God-honoring Dad?

"The Bible never says that God is love, love, love; or mercy, mercy, mercy; or justice, justice, justice. It does say that He is Holy, Holy, Holy that the whole earth is full of His glory" – R.C. Sproul

THE TAKEAWAY

Understanding the holiness of God should bring an awe-filled fear to our souls:

- Church can be so casual nowadays that we can miss the majesty of who we are singing songs to, learning about, and serving.
- That's why David says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
- A healthy understanding of God's holiness should create a sense of awe in us. Like a beautiful landscape, sunset or waterfall. You should feel small.

What does this mean? It means that our way of living should reflect the love and character of the faith we proclaim:

- "God has not called us to be like those around us. He has called us to be like Himself. Holiness is nothing less than conformity to the character of God." --- Jerry Bridges, *The Pursuit of Holiness*
- Holiness is us living like Jesus, following what He asks of us with a faith filled obedience, trusting that His ways are best.
 - And when we mess up, we repent. Don't make sinning a habit.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

