

UNSHAKABLE

STANDING FIRM IN A SHAKING WORLD

A STUDY OF PETER'S FIRST EPISTLE
UNSHAKABLE HOLINESS: 1 PETER 1:13-16

LISTENING GUIDE

| THIS SECTION IS FOR YOU TO READ AHEAD OF TIME AND CONTEMPLATE WHILE LISTENING.

- What assumptions do you have when you hear “holy”? Where do you think those ideas came from?
- Listen for the connection between “belonging to God” and “being set apart.” Think about how this forms the idea of holiness in your mind.
- Consider subtle differences in making yourself holy and belonging to God.
- Think about genuine holiness and vague spirituality or religiousness.

TALK ABOUT IT

| THIS SECTION LETS YOU DIVE INTO GOD'S WORD AND SERMON CONTENT.

- Start with “therefore” in verse 13. Connecting this command to everything God has already done for us, what do you make about the order of grace first, then obedience?
 - How might holiness become distorted when we reverse that order?

| Open Discussion: Take a moment to compare patterns of a new identity in Christ and a pattern living for self and world. Discuss where you've seen Jesus change not only what you do, but also what you desire?

- Prudence would warn readers about confusing holiness with separation, self-denial, religious rules, and personal convictions imposed on everyone else. How can we tell the difference between those and something God actually commands of every believer?
 - Is there a way to take holiness seriously without drifting toward legalism?
 - Is legalism even something we should avoid?

| Open Discussion: Where have Christians sometimes made holiness look unattractive, burdensome, or strange? On another hand, what might a genuinely holy life look like that would actually make the goodness and beauty of Jesus more visible to the people around you?

LIVING A STEADFAST LIFE

| THIS SECTION IS FOR US TO CONSIDER HOW TO APPLY IT TO OUR LIVES.

| Open Discussion: Fill in the blanks: “In my life, it's hard to remember that _____ belongs to Him. I know this, and what I've learned is that holiness begins with _____.” What made you think this way? What is leading you now?

- If holiness does begin with belonging to God, where in your life is it hardest to remember, “this belongs to God too?”
- (Ideas could be time, relationships, money, work, entertainment, thoughts, plans, vices, success...)
- There are some practical questions to consider. What are those that the sermon gave us to think about?
 - How will this impact eternity?
 - How will this impact God’s reputation?
 - What does God say to do in this situation?
 - Which of those questions would be most helpful for something you are navigating right now?
- Jesus sends holy people into the world, He doesn't call us to retreat from it. Just know that it'll be hostile, but that He's redeeming it. Who is someone in your ordinary rhythms of life who needs to encounter the character of Jesus through the way you live, love, speak, or serve this week?

PRAY

| THINGS TO CONSIDER PRAYING FOR, A GUIDE/REFERENCE.

- Take prayer requests for each other.
- Ask God to help us see holiness not as "earning His acceptance" but as something that is "living the reality of a life ordered to Him."
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's conviction to reveal places where we're still not surrendered to His will.
- Ask God to form us into people whose lives are distinctly His, people whose presence in our homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, and community makes Jesus easier to see.