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## HOLINESS – PART 1

\*PRAY FIRST 2022 – 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting. [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/pray-first](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/pray-first)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: [2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1](#); [Romans 1:18, 22-24](#)

1. **BE HOLY BY** \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **BE HOLY BY** \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **BE HOLY AND** \_\_\_\_\_..

### *Taking it Home...*

• **Sinners are** \_\_\_\_\_.

• **Apply** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_.

• **Learn to say, "I love you, but I will** \_\_\_\_\_ **of that."**

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: PRAY FIRST 2022

Message: Holiness – Part 1

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: January 9, 2022



## **Connect** (25min)

**Option:** Use these questions, or the questions on p.4 of this guide, depending on what works best for your group as you start 2022.

### 1. HIGH-LOW-KNOW

- a. Share a “High” from this past week. b. Share a “Low” from this past week.
- c. What is something we *don't know* about you yet? Anything - fun, weird, unique, crazy...

### 2. CHECK IN

- \*Using a scale of 1-10 (poor-excellent) how are you in these areas?
- a. Physical Health b. Mental Health c. Spiritual Health

### 3. OPEN UP -- 📖 Read [Isaiah 6:1-8](#). Respond in prayer as a group.

## **Message Discussion** (45min)

\***REMIND** your group that we have begun our yearly **PRAY FIRST - 21 days of Prayer and Fasting**.

Visit [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/pray-first](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/pray-first) for info, to sign up for daily devotion emails, and check out other resources.

### 1. THE BIG IDEA:

*Even though we are called to be holy, certain sins can become accepted among believers and, as a result, have unique challenges to overcome. Still, we are called to strive for purity in all our ways.*

### 2. Holy Moly

\*Share the reading of [1 Peter 1:13-25](#).

- a. When you hear the word “holy” what comes to your mind?
- b. Would you describe yourself as “holy”? Why/why not?
- c. When was the last time you thought about *the Holiness of God*?
- d. Have you ever been taught about *the Holiness of God*? Describe the setting/context if you have.
- e. Why do you think this topic may be avoided or overlooked, even in the church?

### 3. Creatures of Habit

\*Share the reading of [Romans 7:14-25](#).

- a. What are some “bad habits” that we humans have a hard time breaking?
- b. Why do people start or keep behavior that they know is harmful to them in some way?
- c. Read [2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1](#) (*In this passage, we are admonished to come out and be separate from the world. Even though we are called to be set apart, it often becomes the case that certain worldly ways of thinking or doing things become accepted among Christians*).

- d. What are some sins that, even though we know are wrong, are often commonly accepted? Discuss.
- e. How do these sins/behaviors become accepted over time?
- f. Why are these sins uniquely challenging to overcome?
- g. God calls us to “*come out from them*” meaning that we should stand out by living Godly lives.  
However, it can be scary to step out from the norm of those around us.  
Why do you think most people try to conform to those around them rather than distinguishing themselves?
- h. Read [Romans 1:18, 22-24](#). What does this passage tell us about sin?

#### 4. Grace & Truth

\*[John 1:14](#) (ESV) -- *14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (Jesus), and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

\*Shawn talked a lot about *Grace/Love and Truth/Holiness*.

- a. When it comes to *grace and truth*, which word would best define your approach to people?
- b. Shawn mentioned the following principle:  
*When people are coming TOWARD Christ, show lots of love and grace.*  
*When people are going AWAY from Christ, show lots of truth and challenge with holiness.*  
How has this principle played out in your life or relationships?  
Have you ever had to apply this principle in a relationship? Discuss.
- c. Why is *standing out from the world* so important for our testimony and our walk with God?
- d. Is it hard for us to say to someone living in rebellion to Christ,  
*“I love you, but I will never approve of that.”* Why/why not?

#### Application & Prayer (15min)

1. **NOTE:** *This final application may open the door for confession and a deeper level of transparency. Consider reminding your group that what is shared is confidential to the group and commit yourselves to prayer over the things that are shared.*

**READ** [1 Thessalonians 5:11](#) and [2 Corinthians 7:1](#)

- a. What are you *doing* to become more holy? Where do you need God’s help and our support?
  - b. Is there an attitude, belief or behavior that you have held on to for too long that God is calling you to cleanse/purify yourself from?
2. **PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER:** *Break into groups of 3-4 or Men & Women for this portion of your Life Group.*  
\*In response to Sunday’s Message, God’s Word, and our Discussion...How can we Pray for you today?

#### RESOURCES

YouTube Video: [The Bible Project - Holiness](#)

Books:

[Holier Than Thou: How God’s Holiness Helps Us Trust Him, Jackie Hill Perry.](#)

[The Knowledge of the Holy, A.W. Tozer.](#)

## **21 QUESTIONS FOR 2021**

\*Use the following questions to *connect, share, remember and celebrate*.

### ***“Life’s an Adventure! In 2021, Did You...”***

- 1.** Explore/Visit somewhere you had never been before? (walking/hiking, biking, boating, driving...)
- 2.** Try a new hobby, restart an old hobby, or learn a new life skill?
- 3.** Lose anything during to the heat dome (June) or flood (November)?
- 4.** Eat something you’ve never tried before?
- 5.** Reconnect with any old friends or family that you hadn’t seen for more than a year?
- 6.** Laugh so hard you had tears in your eyes?
- 7.** Read a book from start to finish?
- 8.** Watch a movie that moved you to tears?
- 9.** Listen to a new musical artist or create a new playlist?
- 10.** Do any kind of home-improvement project?
- 11.** Plant or grow something in your home/yard?
- 12.** Sing in your shower or car, or dance at home?
- 13.** Help a complete stranger or receive help from a complete stranger? (Good Samaritans)
- 14.** Pay-it-forward in a Drive-Thru or have someone Pay-it-forward for you?
- 15.** Experience a physical injury or healing?
- 16.** Improve your physical fitness?
- 17.** Celebrate a special life event or accomplishment? (birthday/anniversary, birth, job/school...)
- 18.** Read a part of the Bible you’d never read before or use a new Bible reading plan?
- 19.** Pray in a location or way you’ve never prayed in before?
- 20.** Intentionally Fast from anything for more than day?
- 21.** Celebrate a friend or family member’s decision for Christ or baptism?