

**Isaiah 6 and 1Peter 1**

**Main Idea:** In Christ I am holy – called to live a life set apart to God.

**Incarnation**

The incarnation demonstrates God’s immutable attributes in the person of Jesus – attributes that are as relevant today as they were in the beginning. In week 1 we examined God’s sovereignty; last time, His mercy.

- Today: Holiness. Christmas demonstrates God’s holiness. The baby born in Bethlehem demonstrates God’s holiness and His intention to make us holy as well.

**What’s the Big Deal?**

Holiness means “set apart for God’s intended purpose; always true to that purpose.” When we say that something is “holy” we are emphasizing the fact that whatever it is, it remains pure, true to its intended purpose. God is holy because He is always God-like. He is completely free of contamination.

- **God always acts like God** – He can be trusted. He will never take advantage of us or manipulate us. Jesus was a model of perfection and God’s holiness. He always acted true to Himself.
- **We are called to be holy** – It’s part of my identity in Christ. I am called to be holy. I am set apart to God. I didn’t earn this position, I gained it through Jesus.

**We are Called to be Holy**

Holiness essentially defines the Christ-follower’s new nature and conduct in contrast with his old lifestyle. Holiness has nothing to do with looking down on others or feeling superior in any way. Holiness is all about an understanding of who I am in Christ and reorienting my lifestyle to reflect God’s purposes for me. Peter says is takes 3 things...

1. **A Ready Mind (v.13a).** The meaning is to plan in advance a course of action; to determine a mindset; to be ready.
2. **A Disciplined Lifestyle (v.13b).** The sober Christian is correctly in charge of his priorities and not intoxicated with the various allurements of the world or the flesh.
3. **A Future Hope (v.13c).** As long as you remain true to God’s calling, there is always hope.

**Family Night Big Idea**

Help your children understand God’s holiness. He is always like God. He is never unlike God. We are called to be holy as He is holy. That means we are to remain true to His calling and purpose. That’s holiness.

**Discussion Starter – Read 1Peter 1:13-21**

- **Elementary School** – Ask, “What did God use to redeem us (vv.18-19)?” Ask, “When did God choose Jesus to make us holy (v.20)?” Ask, “What does holiness mean?”
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, “How does God’s holiness benefit us?” Ask, “Why should we try to remain true to God’s calling on our life?” How can pursuing holiness help us?”

**Prayer**

"Father, thank You for Your holiness. Help us be holy by remaining true to Your calling of us. Amen."

<p><b>Velocity (Middle and High School Students)</b>  <b>Velocity:</b> The Hunt is this Wednesday  <b>Gravity:</b> Not Today</p> <p><b>Today’s Songs</b>  <i>What Child is This</i>  <i>Away in a Manger</i>  <i>Silent Night</i>  <i>We Three Kings</i></p> <p><b>Mother/Son Basketball Game</b>                  Sign up in KidsJAM or online by December 28<sup>th</sup>. We have 8 Tickets left. You need to reserve your ticket if you would like to go. It is Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and tickets are \$15. Join us!</p>	<p><b>’Twas the Night Before Christmas</b>                  Today we enjoy the KidsJAM Christmas Program.</p> <p><b>Christmas for Families</b>                  Gifts are due today. Drop off in the Community Room under the appropriate Family #.</p> <p><b>Christmas Eve Service</b>                  December 24 at 6pm. No church on Christmas Day. A “Christmas at Home Guide” will be available online or on Face Book.</p> <p><b>Building Update</b>                  We will not have a service on January 1 due to construction. Our up to date need to meet our goal is +/- \$129,000. Great job everyone! Thank you!</p>
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