

Practicing Our Faith: Pursuing Holiness – Part 2

Peter 1:13-16; Hebrews 12:14-17 ~ August 25, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Practicing Our Faith...final week

Last week: positional holiness

Last week I asked...

- How much space do you give to the Holy Spirit?
- Are there places in your life you don't want the Holy Spirit meddling in?
- What are you letting into your life?
- Where do you need to make more room?

Today we are going to delve into behavioral holiness

1 PETER

Prepare your minds for action...

- Obedience to Christ is a conscious act
- With what do we fill our minds?

Discipline yourselves...

- The Greek word there means: *to be free from every form of mental and spiritual “drunkenness” or excess*
- Where do you need more self-control in your life?
- What is taking too much time in our lives—what is distracting us?

Set all your hope...Jesus Christ

- The meaning is to set our hope on Christ vs. on other things
- It is so tempting to set our hope on us

HEBREWS

¹⁴ *Pursue...holiness without which no one will see the Lord.*

- Chase after holiness, urgently and intensely, with the intent to apprehend it...so we can enter into the presence of the Lord

Sometimes we have prayed the prayer, we love Jesus...but we aren't fully present. When that happens, we feel disconnected and bored and it's easy to drift.

BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

What does it look like to chase after holiness with the intent of apprehending it? There is no real formula, but here are some thoughts...

Putting God first in our lives

- Making room for the Holy Spirit
- Asking God what we have placed before Him

Looking at our lives closely

- What are you doing?
- What are you saying?
- What are you thinking?

Keeping up with repentance

- Do we live with an attitude of repentance...looking for ways our thoughts, words, and deeds have sinned against God and others?

Reminding ourselves who we are in Christ

- Remembering positional holiness
- No matter how much we sin, God isn't going to stop loving us. He isn't going to say, “One more sin and you're not saved.”