

Lesson Topic: Becoming Equipped for Holy Living – Learning the Heart of God

Lesson Scripture: *Memory Verse Challenge*

Romans 12:1,2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

I Thessalonians 4:7

For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

II Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

I Peter 1:13-16 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Lesson Focus: Peter expounds on the teaching of holiness from the book of the Law of God – Leviticus.

Leviticus 11:44a " . . . ye shall be holy" Leviticus 20:7 "sanctify and be holy" Leviticus 20:26a " . . . ye shall be holy"

Last Week's Review: Instructions for Holy Living from I Peter, Chapter 1

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| 1. Be prepared | 5. Obey | 8. Reverently fear & trust God | 10. Love with a pure heart, fervently |
| 2. Be sober | 6. Leave off the past | 9. Purify yourself & obey the truth | |
| 3. Grow up, mature | 7. Live holy | | |
| 4. Hope | | | |

Lesson Commentary:

I Peter 1:23 - Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

II Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Because we have been born again and set free . . . We should now be thirsty for Him and His Word, His teaching, His directives, and His ways. We must change our life's direction, existence, and meaning, and yield ourselves to His Word and His Spirit. Submitting ourselves, by drawing near to Him and His Word. The Holy Spirit empowers us to obey and overcome sin. Like the Christians in Peter's day, we need to be fortified and equipped. We must understand and apply our lives to the teachings of Christ. Even if we are misunderstood and harassed, we need to know how to present ourselves as followers of Christ on a daily basis. Our focus and priorities must be His – not ours nor those of anyone else. We dare not ignore Him or treat Him casually. Everything in life – possessions, accomplishments, people – will fade away. ". . . Only what you do for Christ will last." God's Will, Word, and Way will always remain. We must stop grasping for the temporary, focusing our time, money, and energy on Him and our lives in Christ.

Lesson Questions:

Peter offers many instructions in I Peter, chapters 1-3. How many instructions for holy living can you add from chapters 2-3?

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3
1. Be prepared		
2. Be sober		
3. Grow up, mature		
4. Hope		
5. Obey		
6. Leave off the past		
7. Live holy		
8. Reverently fear & trust God		
9. Purify yourself & obey the truth		
10. Love with a pure heart, fervently		