

2 • To Be Holy is to Be SEPARATED

What does it mean to be **HOLY**?

To be holy is to be **SEPARATED**. In what way? To be holy is to be **distinct** or _____ from

the world around us. It doesn't mean that we live far away from everybody else, but it *does* mean we're not "of" the world. We're different. Distinct. Turning our Bibles back to **2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1** helps us understand.

Do not be unequally _____ with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement

has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be _____ people.

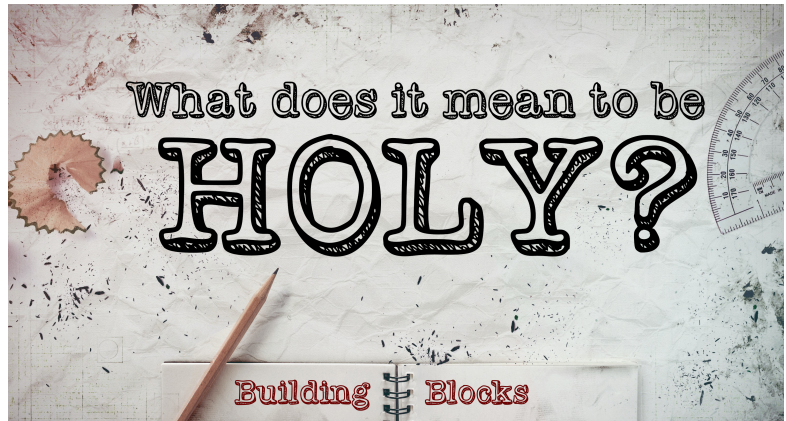
Therefore go _____ from their midst,
and be _____ from them, says the Lord,
and touch no unclean thing;
then I will welcome you,
and I will be a father to you,
and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing _____ to completion in the fear of God.

We're using **1 Peter 1:13-16** as a key passage throughout this series. It also teaches us about the importance of being different, distinct, or separated. In what ways? We hope in different things. Our hope is set fully on God's grace. As obedient children, we're answering the call to leave behind "the passions" of our "former ignorance." And when we do, what happens? God separates us and makes us different. We are "the _____ of the earth" (**Matt 5:13**). We're distinct. We are "the _____ of the world" (**5:14-16**). Listen:

"A city set on a hill cannot be _____."

To be holy is to be separated, "distinct" or "different." **Let's talk about it...**



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Let's go back and dig a little deeper in **2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1**.
 - What does it mean to be “unequally yoked with unbelievers” (**6:14**)?

 - When Paul asks, “What partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?” (**6:14**), what is he getting at?

 - “For we are the temple of the living God.” **2 Corinthians 6:16** sounds really, really important. What impression should it make on us?

- What might it look like this week to be “distinct” or “different” from the people around me whose minds are set on earthly things?

- Is it always easy to be different? If I'm struggling on that front, what can I do?

- Someone might say when they notice that we act differently, “You just think you're better than me.” That can be hurtful and frustrating to hear. Is that what holiness means? If not, what should we remember in that moment? Is there anything we can say in response?

- Let's look back at **Matthew 5:13**. When Jesus calls us to be “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” (**5:14-16**), what does he mean?

- Let's end by eavesdropping on Jesus' prayer in **John 17**. Notice what he prayed for his disciples in **17:14-17**. How does this relate to what we've talked about this evening?