

LIVING STRONG

Part 3: By Living a Holy Life (1 Peter 1:15-16)

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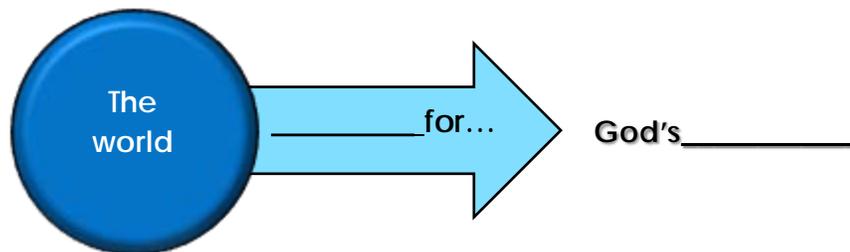


But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." (1 Pet. 1:15-16 NIV)

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation (1 Pet. 2:9 NIV)

→ So which is it? Am I holy already, or am I to become holy?

A. To be holy means to be...



- The purpose of living a holy life is to glorify God and display his nature to those around us (Matthew 5:16).
- God does not simply save us from our sin; he also saves us to be holy (Ephesians 1:3-4).
- Living a holy life is not the same as trying to earn salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- It is also important not to give up when we mess up. When we fail, our response should be to confess the sin and keep moving forward in our Christian walk (1 John 1:9).
- Remember, "*There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus*" (Romans 8:1). God's grace doesn't go away when we make mistakes.

B. Six barriers to living a holy life

- Trying to live a holy life in your _____ (Romans 7:19-20).
- Thinking a holy life is just _____ (cf. Philip. 4:13).
- Occasionally feeling _____ from God (Psalm 22:11).

- Facing _____ to sin (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- Neglecting to yield to the _____ who produces Christlikeness in us (Galatians 5:16).
- Becoming _____ and developing a “ _____ ” attitude (Galatians 5:26).

C. Five reasons why God wants you to be holy



- He wants you to be like him (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- To avoid the natural consequences of sin, including distance and strain in our relationship with God (Genesis 3:8).
- To foster intimacy with him and build spiritual strength and stability (Psalm 59:9).
- To make us useful and effective for his purposes (2 Peter 1:5-8).
- To please him and to produce godly “fruit” (Galatians 5:22-23).

D. How can you live a holy life?

- By exercising self-control (1 Thessalonians 4:4).
- By guarding your thought life (2 Corinthians 10:5).
- By responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:24-25).
- By remembering that becoming holy is a gradual process, so be patient with yourself (2 Corinthians 3:18).
- By remembering what God has started in you, to make you holy, he will also complete (Philippians 1:6).

E. Taking action

- **Recognize** those things in your life that you see as _____ to living a holy life.
- **Rehearse** the _____ of clinging to them.
- **Respond** to the _____ of the Holy Spirit (absence or presence of peace).
- **Remember**, “There is now _____ for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1). God’s grace doesn’t go away when we make mistakes.