

SOP: Walking in Holiness

What is Holiness:

- It is how God describes Himself—and knows Himself to be. It is a characteristic of God's nature that is at the core of His identity
- It is an environment suitable to the habitation of God.
- To be separate from the wicked and profane—through forgiveness and cleansing—and to be set apart to God.
- It is such a defining characteristic of God Himself—that creation experiences it and proclaims it.
- It is to be set apart from sin—self—and substitutes
- We tend to describe holiness as being morally good. It is more a description of God's generated goodness that displaces any lesser thing.

What it is not:

- A list of behaviors that will satisfy God's standard through our own human efforts. (achieved by our ability to perform at a prescribed level)
- External only (Matthew 23:25-33)

Descriptors:

Justification: imputed holiness—what belongs to Jesus Christ is mine (NLT-Galatians 2:20)

Sanctification: the lifelong purpose by which we become Holy

Difference between righteousness and holiness—to be sacred as opposed to common

Holiness= to be dedicated or consecrated to God

Righteousness=morally right or justifiable; condition of being declared morally excellent

It is a Work of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit convicts—He exposes sin by His light—so we might recognize and turn from sin and toward the Lord.
- Holy Spirit teaches us what pleases the Father—showing us God's will and way as we understand His Word.
- The more clearly I see Jesus—by the will/way/power of the Holy Spirit—the clearer I will display Him.

Walking in the Spirit is to walk by the leading and inclination of the Holy Spirit—in full submission to the Word and will of the Father.

Walking in Holiness is what is produced as submit all of us to all of Him; not leaning on our own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Walking in Holiness:

- Make it your aim/focus. Allow what you know of Him, through the Spirit, to be reflected through your own life.
- Submit yourself to the will of the Holy Spirit—do what you see Him doing.
- Listen. Hear. Obey. Repeat.
- Walk in intimacy of relationship with Jesus. Holiness is not an enforced standard of moralism—prescribed outwardly and enforced by others.
- Perfection—through reflection—not performance
- Follow up: Reorienting our desire