

The good news that we are called to share not only gives a hope of going to heaven, it gives the hope that we can live life to it's fullest here and now.

*What would you say are important components of a life lived to its fullness in Jesus, the Good Shepherd?*

Now the question is how should we live a holy life on mission for God? Here are some suggestions:

- Understand your identity in Christ and how God uniquely wired you (Enneagram, Myers-Briggs, etc)
- Know your spiritual gifts (<https://fivefoldministry.com>)
- Through the practice of prayer, Sabbath, Silence and Solitude, ask God to show you the direction of your life on mission for Him.

### **WRAP-UP**

God's character- His unique purity, glory and goodness are a demonstration of His holiness. He created us to be His image bearers and to be holy as He is holy. This is only possible through the work of the Holy Spirit in us, imparting God's holiness to us as we make ourselves available to Him. As we are being made holy, and set aside for God's purposes, we will join Him in His mission to redeem and restore the world. The good news is that this mission is not only to bring the promise of a future in heaven, but also a promise of life to the full here and now.

### **Memory Verse**

*For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.*  
- Leviticus 11:44a ESV

### **PRAYER (20 MIN)**

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life: \_\_\_\_\_

Pray for your group members' needs: \_\_\_\_\_

*Challenge- God only made one of you, so you're the only one who can do what you can do. In light of the way God wired you, seek direction from God about how he can uniquely use you on His mission in the world. for more info on your unique gifts and identity, check out the enneagram and Myers-Briggs type-finder tests at <https://www.truity.com>.*

## **“Holiness and Mission” Rhythms and Revival #4**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Although the ideas of holiness and mission are essential to the Christian faith, they are not commonly used or well understood. So, let's dive into what the bible has to say about God's holiness, our holiness and what that has to do with our mission in life.

### **Ice Breaker**

Is there a place you have visited where you felt a profound sense of awe?

### **Key Passage**

*Leviticus 11:44-45 ESV - 44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground. 45 For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."*

### **STUDY QUESTIONS**

#### **1. God's Holiness**

If we are going to understand the meaning of holiness we need to start with the source of holiness and that is God Himself. The Hebrew word for holy is "qodesh". It was first used in Exodus chapter 3.

*Exodus 3:1-6 ESV - 1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." 4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.*

We have heard this story many times, but let's not miss the significance of Moses' encounter with God. Moses was alone on God's mountain when the fiery presence of God appeared and addressed Him by name. God tells Moses this place is holy (godesh), which is literally translated as "set apart" for God's purposes. When we consider God's unique purity, goodness, and glory we begin to glimpse what holiness is. Something set apart as a demonstration of all that that is summed up in God's character.

*God told Moses to remove his sandals. What did this represent? What are the "sandals" we need to remove when we enter God's presence, and how do we do that? Moses covered his face in fear of God's holiness. How does our relationship through Jesus affect our fear of God?*

## **2. Our Holiness**

Few would argue that God is holy. But what about us? Can we be holy? In our key verses, Lev 11:44-45, God tells us to be holy because He is holy. From the beginning God intended us to bear His image, and He is holy.

*Genesis 1:26 NLT - 26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."*

And from the beginning God desired to have a relationship with us, to walk with us in the garden. But sin separated us from God.

*Genesis 3:8-9 NLT - 8 When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. 9 Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"*

In order for us to come into God's presence we need to be holy or set apart for Him. But our efforts to keep ourselves morally pure can only go so far before we fall. Holiness in us is a work of the Holy Spirit, because God is able to transfer His purity to us when we make ourselves available to Him. The Spirit of the living God in us makes us holy.

*What is the difference between trying to make yourself holy and making yourself available for God to impart His holiness? What are some practices that you can do to position yourself to receive the holiness that God wants you to impart to you?*

## **3. Our Mission**

When you hear the word mission, you might think of that big Catholic church in the middle of San Luis Obispo. Our concept of "mission" has been shaped by the idea that a mission is something undertaken by a missionary who travels to far-away places to tell people about Jesus. But that is a very narrow view of "mission".

We derive our mission from God, because as we just found out, we are called to be "holy" and that means being set apart for God's purpose.

What did Jesus declare as His mission in Luke 19:10? How does John 10:9-11 expand that mission beyond just praying the sinner's prayer?

*Luke 19:10 NLT - 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."*

*John 10:9-11 NIV - 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*