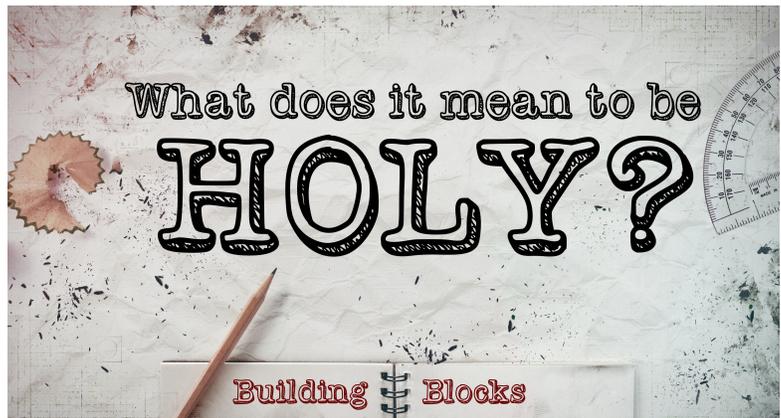


1 • To Be Holy is to Be DEDICATED

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

That's one of those words we hear and sometimes use, but it may not mean what we think it means.



- Being "holy" doesn't mean that I'm _____ than the people around me.
- Being "holy" doesn't mean that I'm more _____ or deserving of a relationship with God than other people.
- Being "holy" doesn't mean that I'm already _____, I never make a mistake, and never have to say, "I'm sorry" or "I was wrong."

So what does it mean to be holy? Let's start here: **to be holy is to be _____**, or the phrase you might sometimes hear is "_____." Do you have shoes or plates or clothes at home that are "set apart" or "dedicated" for certain things? We run across that same principle in the Bible.



- After six days of creating, "God blessed the seventh _____ and made it holy." (Gen 2:3)
- God told Moses at the burning bush, "Take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy _____." (Exo 3:5)
- As he was teaching Israel to observe the Passover, God instructed, "On the first day you shall hold a holy _____..." (Exo 12:16)
- As he entered into a covenant with Israel, God said, "You shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy _____." (Exo 19:6)
- The pattern of the tabernacle included a "holy _____" (Exo 26:33).
- The high priest was to wear "holy _____" (Exo 28:2, 36)
- Throughout the Old Testament, "God spoke by the mouth of his holy _____ long ago" (Acts 3:21)

But here's why this *really* matters. **You and I are called to be holy as well.**

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "_____ shall be _____, for I am holy." (1 Pet 1:13-16)

To be holy is to be dedicated or "set apart." **Let's talk about it...**

For Class & Family Discussion:

- What other examples of everyday things around your house or in the world around you can you think of (like shoes, plates, or clothes) that are “set apart” or “dedicated” for a special occasion or specific task?

- Let’s open our Bibles and read **2 Timothy 2:20-21** together. Notice how the apostle Paul uses an everyday illustration—“in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay”—to talk about people and what we are to be as God’s children. What do we need to do in order to be ready, dedicated, “useful to the master of the house”?

- Let’s keep reading in **2 Timothy 2:22-26**. What sort of “dishonorable” things does “the Lord’s servant” need to “cleanse himself from” in order to be “set apart as holy”?

- Looking a little before this at **1 Timothy 2:8**, what do you think Paul means by “holy hands”? What does it look like for my hands to be “dedicated” or “set apart” for God?

- In fact, it’s more than just my hands. Let’s turn our Bibles back to **Romans 12:1-2** and read it together. In your own words, what is Paul calling all of us to do so that we might be “holy and acceptable to God”?

- Why is it really, really important for us to understand that being “holy” doesn’t mean...
 - I’m better than the people around me?

 - I’m more worthy or deserving of a relationship with God than other people?

 - I’m already perfect, I never make a mistake, and never have to say, “I’m sorry” or “I was wrong”?