

DISCOVERING THE PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF HOLINESS Part 1
Level 6 Lesson 3 Teacher

You should have already been through lessons 1 and 2, Discovering the Pursuit of Holiness and Discovering The Practice of Holiness. These lessons provide the framework of reasoning for our continued studies.

In this multi part study there are 10 practical applications of how we need to let the holiness of God affect our lives

The First practical application of Holiness is: _____

Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 4:31-32

Galatians 5:19-21 (NIV) *The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Ephesians 4:23-32 (NIV) *to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

According to these verses, Christians must put away all _____ including:

HATRED	PREJUDICE
WRATH	VENGEANCE
JEALOUSY	DISCORD
BITTERNESS	REBELLION
PRIDE	

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV) ²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,* ²³ *gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

The fruit of the Spirit (kindness, love, patience, self-control, etc.) must manifest itself in our attitudes. We must learn to forgive, to be obedient to authority, to be thankful, not to let anything offend us, and not to be a busybody in the lives of others.

The most important aspect of holiness is a proper _____.

KEY ATTITUDES: A person with a humble, teachable attitude and a genuine desire to live for God can always be led to greater truth.

One of our first discipleship studies was on THE CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP. If you have not been taught this or need to be refreshed, ask for a CD or to go to the website NJUPC.ORG and look for the Discipleship Series under Free Sermons.

1. Inward holiness will lead to outward holiness, but the reverse is not true. Outward holiness does not lead to inward holiness. Look at what Jesus told the Pharisees in Matt 23:25-26 from the Message Bible *25 "You're hopeless, you religion scholars and Pharisees! Frauds! You burnish the surface of your cups and bowls so they sparkle in the sun, while the insides are maggoty with your greed and gluttony. 26 Stupid Pharisee! Scour the insides, and then the gleaming surface will mean something.*
 - Jesus was not condemning outward holiness, but rather the fakeness of appearing to be holy and instead being filthy of the inside!
 - It is so easy to observe and compare outward holiness but more difficult to discern inward holiness.
 - Outward holiness is often the easiest part to obey, while attitudes and spirits are more difficult to control.
2. Remember that a _____ attitude will keep you out of heaven just as surely as any violation of outward holiness that Jesus reveals to you or any sinful act that you physically commit in rebellion to God!
3. Let us keep _____ our hearts for pride, murmuring, sowing discord, bitterness, wrath and other evil attitudes that will destroy our holiness. It would be so sad for a Christian, who has been born again and who presents a good outward example, to lose out with God because of some attitude which he has allowed to creep into his heart and destroy his walk with God!
4. _____ and a _____ look.
 - God hates a proud look (Proverbs 6:17).
 - He resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).
 - Pride was the sin that caused Satan to fall, and it will cause the downfall and destruction of all who harbor it (Isaiah 14:12-15; Proverbs 16:18).
 - The pride of life is one of the three basic categories of worldliness that tempt Christians (I John 2:16).
6 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
1 John 2:16 KJV

- When talking about holiness it is so easy to become self righteous and critical of others. This is pride and hypocrisy. We all have to be constantly on guard against our own spiritual problems. We can be the most holy looking people in the world, but if we are full of pride we will not be justified in the eyes of God. For an example of this happening, read the prayer of the Pharisee and compare it to that of the publican (Luke 18:9-14).

10 Two men went up into the temple [enclosure] to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee took his stand ostentatiously and began to pray thus before and with himself: God, I thank You that I am not like the rest of men — extortioners (robbers), swindlers [unrighteous in heart and life], adulterers — or even like this tax collector here. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I gain. 13 But the tax collector, [merely] standing at a distance, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, O God, be favorable (be gracious, be merciful) to me, the especially wicked sinner that I am! 14 I tell you, this man went down to his home justified (forgiven and made upright and in right standing with God), rather than the other man; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Luke 18:10-14 AMP

God rejected the pious prayer of the Pharisee, but heard the sincere heart's cry of the Publican.

- Religious people are most often susceptible to the sin of pride. John the Baptist and Jesus preached their harshest sermons against the hypocrisy and pride of the scribes and Pharisees. These statements were not directed at the acknowledged sinners but at the religious leaders of their day. Christians, therefore, must be very careful not to develop this attitude.
- There are two warnings that must be given.
 - First, do not let pride enter your heart as a result of your holiness standards and your knowledge of the truth.
 - Second, do not have a proud look. Since God hates even a proud look, be careful how you conduct yourself.
- Pride is one thing we must always guard against, no matter how spiritual we are. The more successful we are spiritually, the more the devil would like to make us proud.
- We must have humility; and not false humility either. We have seen some people display their humility so ostentatiously and try to prove how humble they were to others that they were actually taking pride in their so-called humility.

- **The way to eradicate pride and a proud look is to pray.** Fall down on your face before God. Lay prostrate before Him. Pray until you weep. Confess your sins and think of how unworthy you are to have enjoyed God's mercy. This kind of prayer is not counted in minutes but in hours. After you have completely broken your spirit, get up and don't let anyone else know about that prayer and experience. This experience must be renewed periodically in order to keep pride away.

The Second practical application of Holiness is: _____

Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV) *For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.*

Matthew 15:18-20 *But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart **proceed evil thoughts**, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."*

2 Corinthians 10:5 *casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*

Philippians 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-- meditate on these things.*

We are what we think and we become what we allow our minds to dwell upon. Evil thoughts defile us. We must think on true, pure and noble things, while casting out thoughts that stem from evil lusts and attitudes. We are to take captive every thought in obedience to Christ.

Overcoming Improper Thoughts

1. _____ thoughts. You cannot control them, but you can redirect them. If you see something tempting for example divert your eyes.
2. Change your _____ if possible.
3. Yield to the _____ of the Spirit

Romans 12:2 (NKJV) ² *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

The Third practical application of Holiness is: _____

Psalms 119:37 (NKJV) *³⁷ Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, And revive me in Your way.*

We must guard our eyes as the gate of the soul and the primary source of input for the mind. We should choose reading material with care so that we do not saturate our minds with vulgarity, sensuality and sin. Violence, illicit sex, sinfulness, bad language, and vanity dominate much of today's entertainment, media, and technology. Therefore, we must guard ourselves and even eliminate anything that harms our spirituality.

1. Importance of the eyes (Luke 11:34; I John 2:15-16) **(Eternal)**

- **Luke 11:34-36** *The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also is full of darkness. ³⁵Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness. ³⁶If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light."*
- *15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

1 John 2:15-16 KJV

2. Make a _____ with your eyes (Job 31:1; Psalm 119:37; Isaiah 33:15-17) **(Internal)**

- **Job 31:1** *I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?*
- **Isaiah 33:15-17** (NKJV) *¹⁵ He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, He who despises the gain of oppressions, Who gestures with his hands, refusing bribes, Who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed, And shuts his eyes from seeing evil: ¹⁶ He will dwell on high; His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; Bread will be given him, His water will be sure. ¹⁷ Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will see the land that is very far off.*

If you cannot control your eyes get an accountability partner. Someone who will have the liberty to question you about your issues.

3. We must keep our house pure and set no _____ **THING** before our eyes **(External)**

- **Psalm 101:2-4** *I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. ³I will set nothing wicked (vile) before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me. ⁴A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness.*

4. We must not take **IN THE SINS** of others

- **Romans 1:32 (KJV)** *Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

PLEASURE Greek 4909, Strong's *suneudokeo*, to think well of in common, i.e. assent to, to feel gratified with: allow, assent, be pleased, have pleasure.

Holiness is not completely up to God, but without God we are completely hopeless. We work in conjunction with the leading of the spirit.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Romans 8:13-14 KJV

13 For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Romans 8:13-14 AMP

God does his part and as the spirit leads we must do our part!

ANSWER KEY

The First practical application of Holiness is: ATTITUDE

According to these verses, Christians must put away all EVIL ATTITUDES including

The most important aspect of holiness is a proper attitude

Remember that a bad attitude will keep you out of heaven

Let us keep check our hearts for pride

Pride and a proud look.

The Second practical application of Holiness is: THOUGHTS

REDIRECT thoughts. You cannot control them

Change your ENVIRONMENT if possible

Yield to the TRANSFORMATION of the Spirit

The Third practical application of Holiness is: SIGHT

Make a COVENANT with your eyes

We must keep our house pure and set no WICKED THING before our eyes

We must not take PLEASURE IN THE SINS of others