

LIVING HOPE

A STUDY IN 1ST PETER

MCA

Sermon Outline

Key verse

Just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do.

1 Peter 1:15

The Lord wants us to be sanctified

1. We are sanctified by Christ

They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

John 17:16-19

2. We are to rid ourselves of impurities

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

1 Peter 2:1-3

3. To be sanctified means set apart

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

1 Peter 2:11

THE HOPE OF SANCTIFICATION

FEBRUARY 9
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

Peter calls us to live a life of holiness built on the foundation of the work of Christ. Followers of Jesus have the hope of sanctification and are called to be holy just as the Lord is holy. Because we belong to Christ, we turn from impurity and live differently. We love others because he first loved us.

Ice breakers

- Do you tend to be more of a perfectionist or easy-going? What are the areas of your life where you feel the strongest need for perfection?
- What is one thing about you that makes you unique?

Dig Deeper

- Peter encourages believers to “*love one another deeply, from the heart*” (1 Peter 1:22b) What might this have to do with sanctification? [see James 1:27]
- Read 2 Corinthians 7:1. What does Paul say is our motivation for holiness? What would change in your life if awe of God was bigger than attention on your faults?
- What are the things that you have had to turn your back on, the “*evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance*” (v. 14), in order to follow Jesus Christ? What difference has this made in your life?
- In your own words, what does it mean to be holy? How important is holiness to our witness?
- Choose one verse from this passage (1 Peter 1:13-2:12) that stands out to you. Explain.
- What have you found most helpful in not conforming to the world’s way of thinking?
- Read 1 Peter 2:2-3. How have you been growing spiritually? What lessons is the Lord teaching you?

Closing

Our lives are to reflect God’s character. God has always been about calling a people to be his so that they reflect him to the world. *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.* (1 Peter 2:9)