

# The Pursuit of God's Holiness

## Study Guide

### *Part One*

#### **Introduction**

When the Scriptures say God is Holy, what do they mean? Before we provide answers to this question let's attempt to define a few terms.

We know that God perfectly possesses attributes or qualities which He shares with mankind. Although human beings are created capable of possessing these qualities, they possess them imperfectly. For example: One of God's "shared" attributes is love. God's love we know is perfect. Another thing we know about love is that God has given us the ability to demonstrate love to one another. Even though God loves perfectly and man loves imperfectly the concept of love is understood and seen as it is demonstrated by both God and man.

God also has attributes or qualities that He alone possesses. An example of one of God's "unshared" attributes is His eternity. God is eternal and man is not. This attribute is only possessed by the Godhead. Although we are familiar with the concept of eternity, we as finite human beings haven't the slightest clue how God's eternal state of existence works. Furthermore, God's eternity is not shared with humans, making eternity an attribute only God possesses.

All of this is said so that we can understand God as holy. The words for holy in the Old Testament that are written in Hebrew are *godesh* which means "apartness" or "sacredness" and *gadosh* which is sacred or holy in English. To be holy would mean the object that is described as holy would be set apart or distinct from another.

The holiness of God is shared with humanity in one sense and not shared in another sense. When we say God is holy it can mean He is holy in two ways. The first way He is holy (or sacred) is that His "unshared" attributes cause Him to transcend all of creation. Therefore God's attributes that only He possesses testify of His holiness. Furthermore, as we revisit the concept of eternity - one of God's "unshared" attributes - we understand that all of God's creation is bound by time and only exists in created space. The fact that God is timeless and His existence doesn't require space for Him to function within makes Him holy. This is only one example - the same principle of holiness could be derived from God's perfection, omnipotence, omnipresence etc. So now we see that from an "unshared" supernatural sense God is holy.

The second way we know God is holy is from a moral perspective which testifies of the fact that God's character operates in the absence of all evil. God is holy because His goodness, which is perfect, demonstrates His moral preeminence. The standard for good moral behavior originates from God and is given to us.

God is Holy in every sense because His glory and His goodness demand it. For the remainder of this study we will focus on the holiness of God as it relates to morality and what it means to live in pursuit of God's holiness.

In the Holy Scriptures we find many passages telling us to be Holy because God is Holy.

Read

*1 Peter 1:13-17*

*<sup>13</sup>Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, <sup>15</sup>but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; <sup>16</sup>because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY." <sup>17</sup>If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;*

### **Understand & Embrace Sanctification**

In order to understand our responsibility to pursue God's holiness, a follower of Christ must fully understand and accept what it means to be sanctified. The word sanctification in Greek is "hagiasmos" which is defined as: "A continuing work of the Holy Spirit that lasts throughout a believer's lifetime, so that he/she becomes more like Jesus." This process leads believers to cooperate with God, often times in stages that lead to spiritual growth. As we obey God more we increase in our sanctification. It is within the sanctification process that the battle between the sinful flesh and the Spirit is recognized.

During the sanctification process we are called to make choices in everything that is allowed to come our way. Either we will do what is right in the sight of God or we will do what is wrong. If your decisions are based on primarily pleasing God you will do right even though your decision to please God may bring about suffering. By honoring God through the choices we make we live in pursuit of God's holiness.

God demands us to live holy by cooperating with the Holy Spirit at all times. However, since we battle sin in the flesh that wars against the Spirit, we sometimes fail resulting in God's discipline. God uses discipline as a means to grow us within the process of sanctification. The same could be said for times of sadness, loss and joy which are all used by God to sanctify us as He shapes and molds our character.

We must obey His promptings that often come in the form of inward conviction to do what pleases Him. People who claim to be believers in Christ yet do not have the conviction of the Holy Spirit when they sin should question their salvation. They act in willful defiance with no consideration for God. This type of behavior is not consistent with those who have been regenerated by the power of God the Holy Spirit.

Many claim to be Christians but it's not the claim you make that separates you from what is called counterfeit Christianity, it's your walk. If you confess Jesus as Lord you are doing well, but what's the proof that Jesus is truly your Lord? The one who claims Jesus as his Lord and Savior is the one who will walk in obedience with the One whom he claims owns him.

Therefore, a true follower of Christ will want to know what God's Word says in every situation he or she encounters. This individual will base decisions not on selfish emotions but on the Word of God. To live this way is to live wisely.

Wisdom is to know right from wrong and to choose what is right. In order to choose wisely we must gain wisdom from the omniscient. It is crucial for a child of God to know the Scriptures. Knowing God's Word allows us to walk wisely in order to please God in our pursuit of His holiness.

1. What does sanctification mean?
2. How long does it last?
3. What is the purpose of sanctification?
4. Who is responsible for your sanctification?
5. How do you define wisdom?
6. Does sanctification involve cooperating with the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?
7. How do we cooperate with the Holy Spirit?

## **Renew Your Mind**

We know as Christians our minds are a battleground and that our character is often shaped by the values which have been most influential in how we have lived our life.

Some are so sensitive over the appearance of their home that they will not rest until everything is perfect. They make sure everything is in its proper place. They are constantly cleaning, rearranging and fixing. Yet they don't even think to wash their minds with the Word of God or at least pray to God to deliver them when unclean thoughts creep in.

They think more about rearranging their furniture than rearranging their schedule, thereby abandoning their children's spiritual needs. They're constantly fixing things as they engage in projects on the weekends, instead of honoring God by attempting to fix their marriage or another broken relationship.

The point of this analogy is not to suggest that cleaning and maintaining our homes is sinful. It is, however, intended to demonstrate mistaken priorities when we focus on the temporal to the point of overlooking the eternal.

Did you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit? What do you choose to let in the Lord's dwelling place?

8. What type of music do you think dishonors God?
9. Do soap operas please God?
10. Is it okay to still get drunk on the weekends as long as you're with the family?
11. Is it fitting for a believer to use profanity?
12. Is it still okay to go to a movie that you know will use the Lord's name as a cuss word?
13. How does focusing on these questions make you feel?

To renew your mind is to change your focus from a selfish worldly perspective to a godly perspective. We do this by concentrating on those things that are eternal. We are to live in pursuit of God's holiness by letting go of the world's grip that entices us to engage in things that ignore or dishonor God.

Read

*Ephesians 4:20-24*

*<sup>20</sup>But you did not learn Christ in this way, <sup>21</sup>if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup>that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, <sup>23</sup>and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup>and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.*

14. What are we to lay aside?
15. Why are we to lay it aside?
16. How are we to lay it aside?
17. What are we to renew?
18. What are we to put on?
19. What is the new self?

*Romans 12:1-2*

*<sup>1</sup>Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

20. How is presenting your bodies a living and holy sacrifice to God an act of worship?
21. Why are believers told to renew their minds?

22. How do we renew our minds?

23. Why is Paul telling us to test God's will by saying "so that you may prove what the will of God is

### **Bear Fruit**

Those who have been made new by the power of God will produce good fruit. In a natural sense fruit doesn't just appear in an instant. Fruit gradually grows over time and matures in seasons. We know in order to cultivate fruit we need soil to receive the seed being planted. However, in a spiritual sense a person is needed who was made by God's design from soil in order to receive. The human heart is the spiritual soil. Next we need a seed to be placed in the soil. From a spiritual sense the seed represents the Word of God in which we believe. Another element which is essential for fruit to grow is water. Without water a seed will not grow. Water represents the Holy Spirit, the fountain of living water. Without the Holy Spirit you can never achieve any meaningful growth. Lastly, in order for fruit to grow we need sun light. The Scriptures say that God is light and in Him is no darkness. God superintends our growth by giving us light to look upon His glory who is Christ the Lord. We continue our growth through good weather and bad, knowing that our character which is being developed will bring glory to the One who calls us.

Read

*Galatians 5:22-23*

<sup>22</sup>*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

24. Whose character are we reading about in the passage above?

25. Which member of the Godhead is there to develop this character?

26. How does God the Holy Spirit accomplish the development of our character?

Read

*Romans 8:29*

<sup>29</sup>*For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;*

27. What is the goal of a follower of Christ?

28. How do you think this is accomplished?

Read

*Romans 7:4*

<sup>4</sup>*Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.*

29. The Scriptures say we were raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. How do we bear this fruit to God?

*Matthew 5:16*

<sup>16</sup>“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

*Ephesians 2:10*

<sup>10</sup>For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Re-Cap

“So far, you should have learned that God is Holy in two different ways. He is set apart from all creation and transcends it. We also know that His moral charter is flawless. This simply means he operates in the absence of evil.

Next we learned that sanctification means to be set apart for God’s purpose. Sanctification is a process that is instituted by God the Holy Spirit. This process takes time and is dependent on full cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

The result of sanctification is the production of the character of Christ which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit are manifested through good deeds. If you want to bear good fruit that pleases God you must live as Jesus lived, walking in good deeds bearing the kind of fruit that pleases the Father. Unlike Jesus we are fallen creatures who must learn to live holy. During this sanctification process our lives reflect a pathway of growth toward holiness populated by failures as well as victories.”

## **Be Perfect**

30. Are earthly believers perfect?

31. Can they be perfect?

Read

*Matthew 5:43-48*

<sup>43</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup>“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup>“For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup>“If you greet only

*your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup>“Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”*

32. After reading the passages above the context becomes very clear. What element must we possess perfectly in order to be perfect like our Heavenly Father is perfect?

33. In verse 48 we read of Jesus saying *“Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”*. Now we know that no one is perfect except for the Godhead. So, how can Jesus command us to be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect?

The answer is simple yet profound. Doesn't God have the absolute right as creator to demand His created beings to be perfect even though He knows we can't? However, we as believers are convicted to strive for perfection in love even though we will never attain it in this world. The goal of our existence is not only to believe in Jesus but to strive to become more and more like Jesus, who is the very essence of perfection. He loves perfectly therefore He is perfect just as His Father is perfect.

34. So how can we learn to live holy?

35. What's an example of cooperating with the Holy Spirit?

36. If you have truly been born again the following passages must be followed:

Read.

*1 Peter 1:13-16*

<sup>13</sup>*Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, <sup>15</sup>but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; <sup>16</sup>because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”*

*Hebrews 12:14*

<sup>14</sup>*Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.*

### **Understanding What Needs To Be Applied To Our Lives:**

We are often faced with the decision to sin both personally and relationally. Once we entertain temptation in our minds our flesh begins to burn with a deep desire to complete the sinful act. When we finally commit the sin the temptation to repeat the act disappears for a time. Why does this happen? The answer is that once we commit the act we appease our fleshly desire to sin. Similar to when our physical body is thirsty we drink fluids in order to satisfy this thirst. However, not long after our thirst is quenched the thirst once again returns.

So how do we break out of this cycle? It is critical for a child of God to continually remember to confront temptation by focusing on God. This is achieved by first understanding and accepting that any temptation we encounter is dangerous for us to ponder in our minds. When the temptation to sin presents itself we must turn our attention to God in prayer and ask Him to deliver us. To live this way is to rely on Him and as we rely on God we yield our mind to Him who is able to provide a way of escape for us.

Read

*1 Corinthians 10:13*

<sup>13</sup>*No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

37. How do we conquer the temptation to sin?
38. What did we learn about God's character from the passage above?
39. Does the passage say that God will take away the yearning to sin?
40. Why do you think God doesn't always take the temptation from our minds?

## **Our Personal Pursuit of God's Holiness**

### **Pursuing God's Holiness by Keeping Our Eyes on Him**

Read

*Job 31:1*

<sup>1</sup>*"I have made a covenant with my eyes; How then could I gaze at a virgin?"*

41. Do you think Job was pursuing God's holiness when he made this covenant with his eyes?
42. Why do you think Job made this covenant with his eyes?

*Matthew 5:27-29*

<sup>27</sup>*"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';<sup>28</sup> but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.<sup>29</sup> "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.*

43. Is looking at pornography on the internet considered adultery?
44. Is committing adultery in your heart less of an offense than committing physical adultery?

Read

*Matthew 5:27-28*

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY’; <sup>28</sup>but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

45. In light of Matt 5:29, what are those who engage in pornography at risk of?

Read

*Galatians 5:19-21*

<sup>19</sup>Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

*1 Corinthians 6:9-10*

<sup>9</sup> or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

### **Pursuing God’s Holiness with Our Speech**

Read

*Proverbs 11:13*

<sup>13</sup> He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy conceals a matter.

*Proverbs 20:19*

<sup>19</sup> He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets; therefore do not associate with a gossip.

46. What is gossip?

47. Why does God hate gossip?

48. What does engaging in gossip promote?

Read

*Ephesians 4:29*

<sup>29</sup> Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

49. How are we to build up others?

*Colossians 3:8*

<sup>8</sup> *But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.*

*Proverbs 4:24*

<sup>24</sup> *Put away from you a deceitful mouth and put devious speech far from you.*

50. We sometimes make reference to “little white lies”. Are they permissible?

51. Why is it generally easier to lie when under pressure?

52. Is it okay to lie when you know it won’t hurt anything or anyone?

53. What happens to the Holy Spirit when a follower of Christ tells lies?

54. When you lie who do you sin against?

*Psalm 51:3-6*

<sup>3</sup> *For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup>Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak and blameless when You judge. <sup>5</sup>Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup>Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.*

### **Pursuing God’s Holiness by Not Loving the World**

Read

*1 John 2:15-17*

<sup>15</sup> *Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.*

55. In what sense are we not to love the world?

56. Name some things that would be titled lust of the flesh?

57. Name some things that would be titled lust of the eyes?

58. What is the will of the Father for our lives?

### **Pursuing God’s Holiness by the Work of Our Hands**

*1 Thessalonians 4:11-12*

<sup>11</sup>and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, <sup>12</sup>so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.

59. How does not working create a burden on outsiders?

60. Can it become a bad testimony when we willfully do not work?

*Colossians 3:22-24*

<sup>22</sup>Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, <sup>24</sup>knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

61. Who should we be motivated to please in our work?

62. How should we react to a difficult boss?

63. How do the challenges associated with your work relate to your growth in sanctification?

## **Pursuing God's Holiness in Our Relationships**

### **Honor God with Our Relationships**

*Deuteronomy 6:4-5*

<sup>4</sup> "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! <sup>5</sup> "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

64. What should be the top priority in a born again believer's life?

65. What is the proof that we love God?

Please read the following four of the Ten Commandments:

*Exodus 20:1-11*

<sup>1</sup> Then God spoke all these words, saying, <sup>2</sup> "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

<sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods before Me.

66. What are some modern day gods?

67. Why are we commanded to place no god before YAHWEH God?

*Exodus 20:4-6*

<sup>4</sup> “You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> “You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, <sup>6</sup> but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

*Exodus 20:7*

<sup>7</sup> “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

68. In what ways can we take the Lord’s name in vain?

*Exodus 20:8-11*

<sup>8</sup> “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> “Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. <sup>11</sup> “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

69. Why does God want us to rest for a day?

70. What should be our focus during this day?

71. In what way do all four of these commandments hinge on love?

72. How does a person let his love for God show?

Read

*Matthew 21:28-31a*

<sup>28</sup> “But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in the vineyard.’ <sup>29</sup> “And he answered, ‘I will not’; but afterward he regretted it and went. <sup>30</sup> “The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, ‘I will, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> “Which of the two did the will of his father?”

73. Which son do you relate to the most?

74. Which son did the will of his father?

Continue Reading

*Matthew 21:31b*

*They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.*

75. Describe the significance of obedience as it relates to our belief in Jesus?

### **Pursuing God's Holiness by Bringing up Godly Offspring**

*Deuteronomy 6:4-7*

<sup>4</sup> *"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!"* <sup>5</sup> *"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."* <sup>6</sup> *"These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart."* <sup>7</sup> *"You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."*

76. Aside from providing food, shelter and clothing, what is our responsibility as parents in raising our children?

77. How often are we to teach our children?

78. Why do you think the Lord commands parents to continuously teach their children throughout the day?

Read

*Proverbs 22:6*

<sup>6</sup> *Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

### **Pursuing God's Holiness by Loving Your Neighbor**

Read

*Mark 12:28-31*

<sup>28</sup> *One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?"* <sup>29</sup> *Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD;'* <sup>30</sup> *AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'* <sup>31</sup> *"The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."*

79. Why is it important to love our neighbors?
80. How can you love someone you do not know just as much as you love yourself?
81. What is the most loving thing you can do for people living within your community?

Read

*Luke 10:30-37*

<sup>30</sup>*Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>"And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>"Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>"But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, <sup>34</sup>and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>"On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.' <sup>36</sup>"Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?" <sup>37</sup>And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."*

82. From a biblical standpoint are you a neighbor only to people who live next to you?
83. Define "neighbor" from the context of Luke 10:30-37 found above?
84. In the previous passage a priest and a Levite are mentioned. Could these men have projected an outward appearance of godliness?

*2 Timothy 3:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>*But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. <sup>2</sup>For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, <sup>4</sup>treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup>holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.*

85. Why is it so important to concentrate on who you are internally before God and not what you project to others externally?
86. Who actually pursued God's holiness out of all the men mentioned in Luke 10:30-37?
87. What set him apart in a way that was pleasing to God?
88. Does Christ require us to do the same thing this Samaritan man did?
89. When we live our lives based on this teaching, what do we accomplish?