

Living FROM THE CROSS

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

BEFORE VIEWING

(Review) What were some key ideas from the last session. Discuss.

1. Read Ephesians 4:22-24 "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 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." What do you think of when you reflect on this passage?
2. Describe what you believe is meant by the term "holiness" in your own words?
3. Stephen Harbridge is making a strong case that the moment we are saved, we are no longer sinners but saints. Discuss the evidence that he has brought to light so far to support that claim.

AFTER VIEWING

1. What have you traditionally believed about holiness in your own life? Where did those beliefs originate?
2. Share your thoughts regarding this quote "God has only one intended destiny for mankind – holiness. His only goal is to produce saints. God is not some eternal blessing-machine for people to use, and he did not come to save us out of pity – he came to save us because he created us to be holy."
3. What are some of the assumptions built into the "How to become Holy" article by Joe Carter. Discuss and problematize the goal of achieving holiness and the proposed "5 things you must do to become holy".
4. Compare and contrast the old and the new covenants. Use scriptural support to provide a clear illustration of the differences and commonalities.
5. Stephen encourages us to rethink how we might sometimes approach God and to approach Him instead with boldness because Christ lives in us and He has made us blameless, righteous and holy. Do you find this hard to believe? If you believe what the scripture is plainly telling you, how might his change your prayer life?

FOLLOW UP

1. On the last page of the handout there is a quote by Dr. Martin-Lloyd Jones. Read this quote two times then journal about your reflections on this quote.
2. Stephen has made reference to the idea that your beliefs will dictate your behaviour. He used Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he" to further support that idea. Journal some reflections on the following prompts:
 - a. What are the beliefs that are currently dictating your behaviour?
 - b. What does your behaviour say about your beliefs?
 - c. Are there beliefs that are changing as you go through this study? Explain.