

Question:

What comes to your mind when you consider the word “**Holy**”?

My earliest memories are . . .

- A ring in the mouth
- A uniform to earn
- An aisle not to cross
- A glass to drink from only once a year

Defining the Holiness of God:

- Root Word = to divide, to mark off, to set apart from all else; it's the opposite of profane – or to be common or ordinary – to be holy is to be different, distinct, or unique from the common or ordinary.

- The Holiness of God is that which divides Him from everyone and everything else. It is the quality of God being different, distinct, unique – one of a kind.

Who among the gods is like you, O LORD?

Exodus 15:11 (NIV)

*Who is like you--
majestic in holiness,
awesome in glory,
working wonders?*

- God's Holiness refers to both His majesty and moral purity. Holiness is the absolute absence of evil (1 John 1:5) and encompasses and defines all that is pure, whole, righteous, and healthy in the universe.

"We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible and unattainable. The natural man is blind to it. He may fear God's power and admire His wisdom, but His holiness he cannot even imagine."

A. W. Tozer, *Knowledge of the Holy*

How does God reveal His holiness to us?

- **Through** _____
Moses' Life (Exodus 3), David's Sin (2 Samuel 11), Isaiah's Crisis (Isaiah 6)
- **Through** _____
Burning Bush, Red Sea, Tabernacle, Solomon's Temple, The Church Gathered (Acts 3:23-31), Heaven (Revelation 4)

- **Through the** _____
10 Commandments (Exodus 20), Leviticus, Deuteronomy

- **Through the** _____
Samuel, Jonah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Zechariah

- **Through** _____ and _____
Achan (Joshua 7), Ananias & Sapphira (Acts 5), Israel's Diaspora (Nehemiah 1),
The Church Disciplined (1 Corinthians 11)

- **Through His** _____
 - a holy birth
Isaiah 7:14
 - a holy life
John 8:46
 - a holy sneak preview
Mark 9:2-10
 - an unholy death
2 Corinthians 5:21
 - a holy resurrection
John 20:26-31
 - a holy ascension
Hebrews 4:14-16
 - a holy priesthood
Hebrews 9:11-28

- **Through His** _____
Gathered (1 Corinthians 3:16), Scattered (1 Corinthians 6:18-20)

God's holiness raises two important questions:

1. If God is so holy that He cannot even gaze at sin, how can sinful people like us have a relationship with Him?

2. If trusting in Christ's work on the cross blots out our sin before God and we are holy in His sight, why do we keep on sinning?

How must we respond to the holiness of God?

- It's a _____ we make. Hebrews 12:14
- It's a _____ that we think. Ephesians 4:17-24
- It's a _____ we obey. 1 Peter 1:14-16; Hebrews 13:4
- It's an _____ we develop. Proverbs 8:13; 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is God so adamantly against sin and evil? How does this fact form your view of God's love and desire for wholeness and health for all He has made?
2. Explain why you living a holy life is so important to God? Beneficial to you? Consistent with who you are in Christ?
3. What specific steps do you need to take to "be holy" as He is holy?