

Discussion Starter: Who has impacted your life by observing his/her holy (*relatively speaking of course!*) lifestyle? What made this person stand out in your mind?

Prayer

Key Passage: Hebrews 12:14

Put this verse's message into your own words.

How does this verse connect personal holiness with evangelism? Describe a time when you have personally observed the validity of this connection.

Discussion Questions:

What are the two definitions of "holy" that Pastor Ramel gave during the sermon (*sinless, separated*)? Which definition jumps to mind for you first when you hear some talk about holiness? What does the alternate definition add to the concept that you would not normally consider if left only to your first-instinct definition?

Read **Isaiah 64:5-6** and **Romans 3:21-28**. What tension or contrast could someone see who is coming to these passages for the first time (*Christians are righteous in Christ and unrighteous in self at the same time*)? Talk about this holy/unholy dynamic of the Christian as if you are explaining it to your child or grandchild.

Pastor Ramel said something along the lines of, "Creating interest in the Gospel is easy, but it is difficult to sustain that interest over time." How have you encountered this truth in your life or in the life of someone you know? Give a specific example.

Is it possible for a church to put too much emphasis on wanting to see people "make a decision" for Christ? Why or why not? What other aspect(s) of the Great Commission mandate of **Matthew 28:18-20** are frequently sacrificed if "making a decision" becomes the only emphasis (*making disciples, teaching them to observe what I have commanded you*)? What do "making disciples" and "teaching them" look like in your life and/or the life of SOBC?

Read **2 Timothy 2:20-21**. If the analogy of kitchenware does not resonate with you, does another analogy/simile communicate the same truth in a similar way? According to this passage, why are Christians called to live a separated/holy life (*also see especially "point III" in Ramel's sermon outline*)? How do we guard ourselves from drifting from these right motivations into the areas of legalism or self-righteousness?