



iBelieve In Holiness

(1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

- Introduction:
1. For the past several weeks, we have been discussing fundamental beliefs of Christianity.
 2. Thus far, we have discussed God, the Bible, the church, and today we are going to discuss the need for holiness within the church.

I. What Is The Purpose of the Church

- A. Last week we discussed the purpose of the church, and said that when a church loses it's way, it gets in the way.
- B. The mission of the church is summed up in Ephesians 3:21.
 1. "To him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."
- C. We can accomplish this mission by being Jesus' point of contact with the world today (Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:13-27; Galatians 2:20).
- D. Jesus needs our lips through which to speak, our hands through which to minister, and our feet to take the gospel of peace to the world.

II. The Need For Holiness

- A. Holiness is essential to fulfilling our purpose.
- B. (Colossians 3:12)
- C. (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- D. (Hebrews 12:14)

III. The Challenge of Holiness

- A. Do we malign holiness when we see it lived out?
- B. When the normal seems abnormal, we're living subnormal lives.
- C. When do we have opportunities to live courageously?
 1. In the past, there were calls to courage (Deuteronomy 31; Joshua 1).
 2. What great thing requires courage today?
- D. (Mark 12:30).
 1. How much energy do we exert to be holy?
- E. We need to seek holiness in speech, thought, behavior, and dress.

- Conclusion:
1. iBelieve in the need for the bride of Christ, the church, to be holy.
 2. Without holiness, we are unacceptable to God, and unappealing to those who are seeking to be like him.