

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

What to do right after the service to help “the Word dwell more richly,” within us (Colossians 3:16):

1. Instead of rushing off after the service or talking about the latest news, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after church. Start spiritual conversations by asking, “How did the Scripture challenge or speak to you today?” Or “what about God in the message encouraged you?”

2. Encourage someone by sharing things you learned about God from His Word during the sermon. Make note of how your thinking has changed. Don't let biblical teaching be a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over (James 1:22-25). Choose one or two particular applications to share

[Above from book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church Member*]

For further Application, Meditation, and Conversation on today's text:

Date: 8/20/2023 – “Holy Father, Holy Children: Becoming What We Are In Christ, Pt. 2” (1 Pet 1:14-16)

1. A “saint” is someone who has been set apart by God to belong to Him. What do you remember from the message about what a saint is and is not? Have you ever thought of yourself as a saint? Why or why not?
2. Read I Peter 1:14-16 again. Both the words “saint” and “holy” come from the same Greek word. What does it mean to be holy? What reasons do these verses give for why someone who belongs to God must live a holy life?
3. In Verse 14, Peter describes someone's life before they are right with God as being lived according to “the passions of your former ignorance.” What were you “ignorant” (or unaware) of before becoming right with God? What “passions” (or strong desires) characterized your life before Christ? Are you still conforming (or patterning) your life to those desires?
4. From Verses 15-16, we read that a saint is to be holy because God is holy. To be holy means to be separate from evil. Our actions are holy when we turn away from the evil desires that characterize a sinful world and obey God instead. What evil desires do you need to turn away from? What choices can you make today to grow in holiness as much as possible? What choices did you make yesterday that comprised your desire to become more holy?