

HOLY FRIENDSHIP BROADSHEET #2

Reflections & Conversation based on the Sunday Service

In this issue:

- This Sunday begins our stewardship campaign “Celebrating Our Life Together.” Be praying for what God is calling you to pledge for 2019.
- Use the Prayer for Illumination as a daily prayer to get your day started.
- Which hymn is your favorite this Sunday? Try reading or singing it at home this week during your time of prayer.

Romans 12:1-3

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

1 Peter 1:13-16

¹³Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, as God who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶for it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’

Reflection Questions

When you hear the word “holy” what is the first image that comes to mind?

1 John 4:8 says that “God is love.” How does love for God and one another redefine the meaning of the word “holy”?

“Holy” means that someone or something is set apart. Read Romans 12:1-2. What attitudes, behaviors & beliefs are prevalent in our society that we need to reject in order to be more in tune with God’s love?

“Holy” also means to be whole. Do you ever feel like your life is fragmented or going in different directions? How might focusing on God’s love help bring wholeness to your life?

“I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me; but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.”

— from the hymn “I Am Thine, O Lord” Fanny Crosby, 1875. Crosby, who was blind, wrote over 8,000 hymns.



History of Holiness

Methodism gave birth to the “holiness movement” in the late 19th century. It stems from the Wesleys’ concept of “sanctification” (holiness) which is the belief that you can be completely transformed by the love of God in this lifetime. While many believed that this was a gradual, life-long process, others believed that it could happen in a single experience, a kind of second conversion experience. By the end of the 1800s many of them broke away from mainstream Methodism to form “holiness” denominations, such as the Church of the Nazarene and the Church of God. In turn, the holiness movement gave birth to Pentecostalism, which believes that speaking in tongues is a sign of holiness.