

Sunday Gathering

October 15, 2023 - A Call to Holiness, 2
Corinthians 6:14-7:1 - Jason Hunsucker

Call to Worship - Isaiah 6:3

I want to begin this week by asking everyone a question ... What comes into your mind when you hear the word holy? It's a word we use pretty often within the church, but when was the last time you really thought about God's holiness. One theologian says about God's holiness: "We cannot grasp the true meaning of the divine holiness by thinking of someone or something very pure and then raising the concept to the highest degree we are capable of ... We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible and unattainable ... Only the Spirit of the Holy One can impart to the human spirit the knowledge of the holy." (A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy)

It's so easy to come to a gathering like this and still feel flat. Uninspired. Defeated. Distracted. But this morning, church, we are in the presence of a majestic, pure, powerful, good, beautiful, holy God. Let's say this together

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts. The Earth is full of His glory.
(Is. 6:3)

And we are in His presence BY HIS INVITATION. He calls to us. He makes himself known. So this morning, let's meditate on these truths and sing from a heart full of awe and wonder at who God is.

Praise the Lord

Confession - 1 Peter 1:15

1 Pet. 1:15 says, "... as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." Church, it's written all through the scriptures: We are to look different from the world.

And yet, every day, just like the world, we struggle with greed and lust.

Lord, grant us contentment and purity

We suffer from short tempers and anger

Lord, give us patience and humility

Just like the world, we are jealous of those around us. We judge others by what they have or don't have; we use people for what they can give us.

Lord, let us love your image bearers, both our friends and enemies

Take a moment, to reflect on need to seek the Lord's mercy, not only in your outward actions, but in the movements of your heart (pause) Brothers and sisters, we are promised that when we repent by the power of the Holy Spirit and turn back to the Lord, we are forgiven and free. Let's say this together:

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God. (2 Cor. 7:1)

Holy Holy Holy

I Will Wait For You (Psalm 130)

Sermon 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

Take My Life And Let It Be

Oh Give Thanks (Psalm 107)

Benediction

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus.

Family Groups - We invite you to visit one of our Family Groups, which meet in homes throughout the week. We describe them as "intentional environments to be transformed by the gospel through relationships. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us, and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Giving & Visitors - Also, now is our time for giving—ushers, please come forward. If you are a visitor with us this morning, please grab a visitor card from the basket so we can get to know you more. You can give it to someone with a lanyard or leave it in your seat.

Antioch members, remember that giving is part of how we participate in God's mission. If you prefer to give digitally, visit our website or find us on GivApp.

Announcements

For everyone, here are a few ways to take the following steps:

- 1) The Women's Bible study will be concluding next Sunday, October 22nd at 9 AM, in the training room. They will continue in their study of 1 John. If you have missed at all, this last one is a great opportunity to connect with other ladies in the church. See Katie Harrod for any questions!
- 2) If you didn't get a chance to pick up a prayer card and magnet reminder for the family who was commissioned two weeks ago please stop by the table to the side. We want to be faithful to our covenant with them by regularly praying for and encouraging them so please sign up, put it in your calendar, and let the magnet remind you to pray.
- 3) Food Pantry is this Saturday. This is an exciting time in the ministry as several people have recently come to Christ. Servants should arrive by 9:30am, doors open at 10:00 (great opportunity to serve as a family!). If you have questions, see Steve Leach. Box prep will be Friday morning. If you're available to help with Box Prep, please let Sarah O'Mally know. We have seen tremendous growth in the number of food pantry visitors in the last several months and we're expecting more of the same this month. Please keep the ministry in your prayers and consider serving on Friday or Saturday. Both days are 100% kid-friendly and typically last about 2-3 hours, but you can stay as short or long as you like.
- 4) Operation Christmas Child boxes are right outside the door.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and end with a benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing.

Church, remember this week that you are to be salt and light. A city on a hill. Blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world. You are to be HOLY. Go now, seeing this not as a burden, but as freedom and blessing. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit Be with you all.

Based on Matt. 5: 13-16; Phil. 2:15; 1 Pet. 1:16

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

You are sent.
