

Home Group Leader's Notes

Week of February 18, 2024

Sermon Series: *You CAN Have It All*, week #7 – “Godliness”

Much of the application of this series revolves around two key points:

- 1) Self-examination and application of each of the qualities to “add”
- 2) How we help each other to “participate in the divine nature”
- 3) How we can “make every effort” to add these qualities

This week is about a quality that is often misunderstood. Be sure to understand the definition of “godliness.” It might be helpful to spend time in smaller groups of four or divide up men and women for a discussion.

WHAT WE WANT

I have often heard people say that they want their sons to grow up to be a godly man or their daughters to marry a godly man. There are many adjectives available – why godly?

INTRODUCTION TO OUR STUDY

We are walking through a letter in the Bible written to (1) encourage believers to live in the knowledge and grace of God, (2) to be people of holiness and godliness, and (3) to warn them of false teachers, and (4) to be prepared for the difficult days ahead. This letter could be written to the church today. These same challenges and dangers are in our culture and the same grace and knowledge of God is just as needed.

Peter said in chapter one that the result of adding certain qualities (practices) is that “we can become partakers of the divine nature.” That is, we can grow to be more like Jesus. Each week we are spotlighting one quality that Peter says to add to our genuine faith. The sequence looks like this: Add to your faith, goodness (excellence), to goodness add knowledge, to knowledge add self-control, to self-control, add perseverance. Peter then wrote to add “godliness” to self-control. Written in sequence, it looks like the following:

Faith – Goodness – Knowledge – Self-control – Perseverance – **Godliness** . . .

Let’s begin by defining “godliness.” It is a translation of the Greek word “*eusebeia*” which can also be translated as “piety.” The root of the word means “sacred awe” or “reverent devotion.”

LEARN FROM THE BIBLE

What do we learn about being godly (godliness) from the following verses?

Our group has been doing this together. This gives us a foundation of understanding the Word before we discuss the application and encouragement.

John 9:31

Acts 3:12

1 Timothy 2:2

1 Timothy 3:16

1 Timothy 4:7-8

1 Timothy 6:5-6

2 Timothy 3:12

2 Timothy 3:5 (cf. Titus 1:16)

Titus 1:1

Titus 2:12

2 Peter 1:3

2 Peter 3:11

How would we recognize that someone is godly?

APPLICATION

This is a part of the self-examination in this series.

From what you have learned above, do you think that you are “godly?” According to Titus 1:1, true faith and intimate knowledge of the truth (God’s Word) will lead to godliness (living a life of reverent devotion to God). Godliness will be revealed in our actions and thoughts. It is the desire to live with and before God. Godliness leads to seeing the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through us. How are you doing at growing in godliness? It is always helpful to me to be in a group of trusted friends to grow in godliness.

DISCUSS TOGETHER

Compare what Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 6:11 to our passage in 2 Peter 1. How does one “pursue godliness?”

What can lead us away from living a life of ‘reverent devotion’ to God? (I.e., What in our circumstances, our desires, our daily habits lead us away?)

Jesus, Peter, and Paul gave us repeated warnings about false teachers and imposters of the faith. Reread 2 Timothy 3:5, Titus 1:16, and 2 Peter 2:1-3. Why do we need these warnings? What should we learn from them?

PRAY FOR GOD’S WORK

- Please pray for our Men’s Ministries as they continue to grow.
- Please continue to pray for Amani Anaya (and Sam and Abby) as she battles leukemia
- Please remember our Trinity Family that are hurting from loss or illness