



SAMSON PART : 7

“Holy Mountain”
November 4th

Judges 16:1-7; 1 Peter 1:1-16

Samson was called to have a holy life-set apart for God and separated from evil. Unfortunately, he compromised his calling through his self-reliance and arrogance. As Christians, we are in a similar situation as Samson – if we are not hoping in the right thing the Christian life becomes about our strength - being holy becomes about our effort and we are destined to fail. How can we “be holy” as God is holy?

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16

- Holiness, for us, is living opposite to what we were before (v. 14).
 - How do we live this ‘opposite life’?
1. **God has called us** – (chosen by Him) **“but as he who called you is holy”**
 - Do you remember your calling? How the Lord drew you to himself?
 - Do you remember when you answered His call?
 2. **We are adopted as children by God - ‘As obedient children’**

Fully a child of God with all privileges, benefit, and responsibilities.

- No longer slaves – but children.
- He is no long a ‘master’ – but our Father.
- Holy Spirit Empowers us to remember our inheritance

Which of these ideas are challenging for you to understand and live out? Why?)

3. **We have been given a different ‘life lens’. - ‘former ignorance’**

“Before Christ radically changes our lives we are completely ignorant of the desires that draw us away from Christ. After Jesus works in us we are no longer ignorant. What was acceptable before is now no longer acceptable because we are no longer deceived.”

- Instead of our ‘former ignorance’ we have a new reference - Instead of our values about ourselves, our identity is based on the image that God created us.
- How does God see us now that we are His children?
- How should this inspire us to think about ourselves?

4. **Then we obey by living out of a new paradigm with changed hearts, minds and lives. – “Obedient Children”**

Our obedience (and therefore our holiness) emerges from us fixing our hope (vs 13) on God’s grace.

Our call is: living a life permeated with God 24-7. God is our motive, guide, moral standard, comfort, strength, truth and joy.

- How do we practically ‘fix our eyes upon Jesus’ and hope in the Grace of God?

Spend time sharing who we are praying for as individuals in the ‘byname’ initiative. Then pray for these people ‘by name’

What activity is your group planning this Fall to connect with our community?