

A Note About Approach for teachers

LIVING HOLY



The first step in living holy lives begins with a proper understanding of what God means when He calls believers to holiness, a command that is found in both the Old and New Testaments. Holiness is *not* merely conforming to a certain set of rules. Rather, it is a way of life based on separation from the world, setting ourselves apart or devoting ourselves to God for His use, and the eradication of the sin nature through the experience of entire sanctification. It includes the necessity of spiritual growth, and is marked by a desire to

receive instruction from God and to mature as Christians in every aspect of the Christian walk.

It will be important for your students to understand that a measure of holiness is imparted to the heart at salvation. We do not minimize the experience of salvation when we preach the experience of sanctification. The “old man” is nailed to the cross at salvation; he is dealt the death blow at sanctification. Nor do we minimize sanctification by acknowledging that we continue to grow in spiritual maturity after receiving that experience.

God deals with each of us uniquely according to our understanding and the Light we have. For this reason, it is impossible to attribute the precise level of virtue imparted at the experience of salvation versus what is reserved for the experience of sanctification or beyond. We can unequivocally state, however, that at salvation our sins are forgiven and we have power to live without sin, even though the principle of sin still exists until the experience of sanctification, when it is eradicated. So in each lesson of this series, which deal with the specifics of holy living, we should be clear that holy living is an ongoing continuum, beginning with the instantaneous experiences of salvation and sanctification, and continuing in development as we mature as Christians.

The theme of this unit is that there is an essential difference between the sanctified people of God and the people of the world. The views, motives, desires, and purposes of a holy, sanctified individual are diametrically opposed to those of the world. The one who is interested in living holy will be constantly seeking to abide in conformity to the character of God, and in obedience to the will of God.