



## **Shelby Christian Church**

CORE 52: NEW LENS – HOLINESS \* LEVITICUS 11:45, 1 SAMUEL 11, PSALM 51, EXODUS 19:6,  
2 CORINTHIANS 7:1, 1 PETER 2:9 \* 9/7/2025

**What comes to mind when you think of the word "holiness?"**

**Have you ever come into personal contact with someone famous? What was that experience like?**

**Are you intimidated by others who you believe are morally superior to you? Why or why not? What feelings do you have in their presence?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LEVITICUS 11:45**

**What is the connection between God delivering Israel from Egypt and His call for them to be holy?**

**What does it mean that God is "holy"? How is His holiness different from human understanding of goodness or morality?**

**Why do you think God commands His people to be holy as He is holy? How does God's holiness inspire both awe and reverence in your personal relationship with Him?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 SAMUEL 11**

**How does David's sin unfold step by step? What role does David's position of power play in this story? How might his status have influenced his choices? What does this chapter reveal about temptation and human vulnerability?**

**How does David's response to Bathsheba and Uriah reflect his priorities and character at this moment? What emotions or rationalizations do you think David experienced before and after his actions? How might pride, desire, or a sense of entitlement contribute to moral failure in our own lives?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ PSALM 51**

**What are the key emotions and themes expressed in David's prayer in Psalm 51? How does David acknowledge his sin in verses 1–6? Why is confession an important first step in repentance? How does David appeal to God's mercy and steadfast love rather than his own righteousness? What does it mean to have a "clean heart" and a "renewed spirit" (vv. 10–12)? How does David's prayer teach us to seek God's restoration after sin? What role does God's forgiveness play in personal transformation according to this psalm?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ EXODUS 19:6**

**What does it mean for Israel to be a "kingdom of priests"? How does this differ from the role of priests in other cultures?**

**What is the significance of being called a “holy nation”? In what ways are believers today called to reflect the identity of a holy nation?**

**How does this passage emphasize God’s desire for His people to be set apart for Him?**

**How does God’s holiness challenge or inspire you in your personal faith and community life?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 2 CORINTHIANS 7:1**

**What “promises” do you think Paul is referring to in this verse?**

**What does it mean to “cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit”?**

**How does Paul connect holiness to the “fear of God”?**

**Are there areas in your life where you feel you need cleansing or renewal?**

**What practical steps can you take to address both physical and spiritual defilement in your life?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 PETER 2:9**

**What does it mean to be a “chosen race” and a “royal priesthood”?**

**Why does Peter emphasize that we are “a people for his own possession”?**

**What is meant by “proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness”?**

## **APPLICATION**

**What does David's moral failure (2 Sam. 11) and his response to God (Psalm 51) reveal to us about personal holiness?**

**Is there anything you refuse to share with someone closest to you? In your experience, why does someone's attempt to be holy by behavior modification lead to hypocrisy, secrets, guilt, judgment, and pride?**

**Are there things you assume pastors can do with or for God that you are not as capable of? Do you have an area of life where your actions don't reflect your appreciation toward God or his presence in your life?**

## **PRAYER**