

Core Competencies

Part 3 - Holy Living

Core Competencies

Beliefs, practices, and skills...

- [central to living out our faith in the real world
- [which we can leverage to our practical advantage in a wide variety of contexts and situations

Holy Living

"but as he who called you is holy, you
also be holy in all your conduct"

1 Peter 1:15

holy = set apart or separate

holiness involves being set apart UNTO God and
FROM sin

Holy Living

"but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy..."

1. the **holiness** of God Himself
2. the **call** of God

Sanctification

- [Positional - our standing now before the Lord
- [**Progressive - our growth in holy living over time**
- [Permanent - our eternal state

Philippians 2:12

"Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.**"

Equipping with...

Two Overarching Objectives In Mind

- [Listening to the Holy Spirit
- [Living separate FROM sin

Listening to the Holy Spirit

John 16:8 — "And when he [the Holy Spirit] comes, he will convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment"

- [through the written Word
- [through prayer
- [through a well-formed conscience
- [through interaction and accountability with others

Living separate FROM sin

Guard your heart

"Keep your heart with all diligence, for from it flows the springs of life." (Proverbs 4:23)

"But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander." (Matthew 15:18-19)

Living separate FROM sin

Be intentional and hold nothing back

"Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" (Psalm 139:23-24)

"Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults." (Psalm 19:12)

Living separate FROM sin

Control your mind-gate

Your mind is a gateway to and influence over your heart.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Living separate FROM sin

Choose your friends carefully

"Bad company ruins good morals." (1 Corinthians 15:33)

"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness...Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord..." (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1)

Living separate FROM sin

Plan communication strategies and escape routes ahead of time

The Book of Proverbs

Living separate FROM sin

Choose your heroes carefully

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1)

"For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry." (1 Peter 4:3)

Living separate FROM sin

Practice self-denial

"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires." (Romans 13:14)

"So you also must consider yourselves dead to [the] sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Romans 6:11)

"And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." (Galatians 5:24)

Living separate FROM sin

Play it safe

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation..."(Luke 21:34)

"The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers." (1 Peter 4:7)

Living separate FROM sin

Live beyond the prohibitions

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37)

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39)

Living separate FROM sin

- { Guard your heart
- { Be intentional and holding nothing back
- { Control your mind-gate
- { Choose your friends carefully
- { Plan communication strategies and escape routes
- { Choose your heroes carefully
- { Practice self-denial
- { Play it safe
- { Live beyond the prohibitions

Philippians 2:13

"For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

BONUS SLIDES

— [Scripture verses that directly attribute holiness to God...

- [Leviticus 11:44; 11:45; 19:2; 21:8
- [Joshua 24:19
- [1 Samuel 2:2; 6:20
- [Psalm 71:22; 78:41; 99:9
- [Isaiah 5:16; 29:23; 30:15; 43:3; 48:17; 54:5
- [Jeremiah 51:5
- [Hosea 11:9; 11:12
- [Habakkuk 1:12; 3:3
- [Luke 1:49
- [John 17:11
- [1 Peter 1:15-16
- [Revelation 4:8; 6:10

BONUS SLIDE

— [The Bible is relevant and transforming

- [gives **new birth** – 1 Peter 1:23 "Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God..."
- [produces **faith** – Romans 10:17 "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."
- [stimulates **spiritual growth** – 1 Peter 2:2 "Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you grow up into salvation..."
- [makes possible **holy living** – John 17:17 "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth."
- [gives **victory over sin** – Psalm 119:11 "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."
- [delivers **help and comfort in times of trouble** – Psalm 119:50 "This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life."
- [provides **guidance for life's decisions** – Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
- [facilitates **blessed outcomes** – Psalm 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."
- [adds **substance to our witness** – Luke 21:15 "...for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict."
- [connects us to **the wonder of God's plan and will for us** – Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."

A 5-Finger Grip on the Word



Developing competence

1. Turn to God, orient your life to Him - 1 Thessalonians 2:9
2. Practice discernment and obedience - Ephesians 5:10; Philippians 2:12
3. Make the connection to conduct, especially relational conduct - 1 Peter 2:1
4. Put to death/put off/put on - Colossians 3:1-17
5. Rely on God working in you to develop this core competence - Philippians 2:13