

# LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

1 Peter 1:13-25

## LEADER'S STUDY

While you meet together this week consider making notes about the people in your group. As you are listening to them, try to identify the things that are important to them. What are their gifts and strengths? What motivates them? How do they communicate? The more you know the people in your group the more you can build them up and encourage them. Be an observer this week and purpose to know your family in Christ.

### **Be Holy?:**

Be holy. That statement alone seems insurmountable. How can an unholy sinner like me be holy? What can I do to make myself holy before God? If Jesus is the standard for holiness then that makes it seem even more impossible. Yet holiness is exactly what scripture is calling us to. There is only one way to be like Christ and that is to be in Christ. Often, we read scriptures like this one and think that the weight of achieving holiness is ours to bear when in fact Jesus bore all that weight for us on the cross. Now we are declared righteous before God because of Him. The only way to be holy is finding our identity in the person of Jesus. His spirit living within us is the power to turn away from self-leadership and choose His leadership. We are made holy in Christ and he empowers us to walk in obedience. Following Him is the only place we will be content. Living in intimate relationship with God is what we were created for.

Some helpful scripture: Matt 10:37-42, James 1:1-18, Phil 2:12-18  
What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

## PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

**PURPOSE:** Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

**PRAY:** Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

**PLAN:** As you prepare for your group things to remember:

- Relationships are the primary way we glorify God. Healthy deep relationships that lead each other to know and follow Jesus are built on trust.
- Greet everyone by name as they arrive, exercise hospitality to make them feel valued and welcome.
- Sometimes it is helpful to break into smaller groups for prayer. People often feel more comfortable sharing personal things in a smaller group.

### **A Culture of Inviting:**

If your groups aren't full keep inviting people to join you. Encourage your groups to do the same. God wants to impact Hancock County through your group!

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## INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ 1 Peter 1:13-25

in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

READ AGAIN in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

Or try retelling the story in your own words with your bibles closed, then look to see what you missed, changed, moved or left out.

(With larger portions of scripture, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

**What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?**

**What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?**

**What have you learned or discovered about people from this passage?  
Another way to ask is: How can people respond?**

**What does it mean to be holy as He is holy?**

**How can we be holy?**

**Why should we be obedient?**

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

**How are you going to obey this passage?**

**What is your “I will” statement?**  
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of “we” or “us” or “Christians” statements)

**With whom are you going to share what you have learned?**  
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

**Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?**