



WEIRD: cause normal isn't working.

Leviticus 11:45

The relationship with God should make us different. ...different than those around us who do not have the same relationship with God.

If you think about it...

what happens to us when we agree to the covenant relationship with God is monumental.

It is a total shift, starting in our core and flowing into our actions. And that's where we want to go for the next few weeks.

Have you noticed that this world is broken? Everything that is broken in this world is a result of sin. So when we come to God through Christ, our sin problem is fixed, and that should make us different than the world around us.

Not in an arrogant way, but simply different.

Ever felt like you are a little out of place here?

1 Peter 2:11

¹¹Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

The reason we feel out of place is because we are out of place. This world is not our home. We are exiles here until we are reunited with God in eternity.

WEIRD:

1 John 3:1-3

¹See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

²Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

When we look around, we should be different... WEIRD.

Here's why... we live in a broken world, when we look around broken looks normal. So we continually get sucked back into the brokenness. But we all know that broken isn't working. Our souls long to be free from this broken world. Look again at what John says...

1 John 3:3

³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The process of purification is also called HOLINESS.

1 Peter 1:15-16

¹⁵But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;
¹⁶for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

This NT verse is connected to our key verse for this week from Leviticus 11:

Leviticus 11:45

⁴⁵I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.

Notice this...

In all three passages, there is a connection between purity or holiness and God.

1 John 3:3

³All who have this hope in him **purify themselves, just as he is pure.**

1 Peter 1:15-16

¹⁵But **just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;**

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Leviticus 11:45

⁴⁵I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore **be holy, because I am holy.**

Here's where we get it wrong. We think that being HOLY is about what we do on the outside. And yes, we are supposed to be different... WEIRD, but not just on the outside. It starts on the inside.

We try to edit our behavior or what people see on the outside and think that's being holy.

Holiness isn't about how we look on the outside - it's about what God had done to us on the inside.

Throughout the OT God uses ordinary things and calls them Holy.

In Exodus 19, Moses goes up onto Mount Sinai to receive the 10 commandments and the law. God comes down in a dense fog and speaks to Moses.

Exodus 19:23

²³Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you yourself warned us, 'Put limits around the mountain and set it apart as holy.' "

The mountain wasn't holy except that God was there.

The next few chapters describes how Moses and the Israelites are to worship God and to build the Tabernacle and the implements of worship that are to be placed there.

Exodus 29:44-45

⁴⁴“So I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar and will consecrate Aaron and his sons to serve me as priests. ⁴⁵Then I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God.

The tent wasn't holy except that God made it so. The altar, made of wood and gold, wasn't holy except that God made it so. Aaron and his sons, the first priests of Israel were not holy except that God made them so.

Holiness happens when God takes ordinary objects and claims them for his purpose.

An ordinary mountain can become sacred if God shows up there. An ordinary animal, set aside for sacrifice, suddenly becomes consecrated. A person chosen by God becomes a priest or a prophet.

These become sacred, not because their nature becomes different... but because their purpose becomes different.

Same is true for us... we are not holy by our own doing, but by what God is doing in us.

Holiness happens when God takes ordinary objects and claims them for his purpose.

Holiness is received, it is not achieved.

Leviticus 11:45

⁴⁵I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore **be holy, because I am holy.**

Be holy **BECAUSE** I am Holy.

qâdash, kaw-dash'; a primitive root; to be (causatively, make, pronounce or observe as) clean (ceremonially or morally) Means to be set apart. To be made holy. We are made holy **because** God is holy.

Holiness is received, it is not achieved.

Weird vs. Weirdo? God does not call us, or ask us to be WEIRDOS.

WEIRD - "I love Jesus and I want to do what He asks of me."

WEIRDO - "I love Jesus and I'm gonna scream at you with a mega-phone."

Wherever we find ourselves in life, our goal is not to grab onto some sort of NORMALCY, when we look around broken looks normal... our goal is to live in the HOLINESS and PURPOSE for which God has claimed us.

Normal isn't working, we've got to get weird.

Chances are good that we will drop the ball on this. We can make this our prayer when we stumble and fall away from our purpose...

Psalm 51:10

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."

Small Group Questions.

1. Has there ever been a time in your life where you felt weird, or out of place? What were some emotions you felt? Where were you and what was the situation?
2. What is Holiness? What makes something or someone holy? Have you ever thought of yourself as holy?
3. If holiness comes from God, why do we still feel the need to try to earn, or work to be holy?
4. Read the memory verse together: Leviticus 11:45 - ⁴⁵I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy. Why are we called to be Holy?
5. What is it that causes people to be fake? Why do we have a hard time being real with others?
6. What is the difference between being weird, and being a weirdo?