

COLOR BLESSED

Week 6 - What is a Color-Blessed Culture? Part II

SERMON RECAP:

In the Bible, God tells us, “be holy, for I am holy.” This statement can sound intimidating, but when we break down the meaning of holiness we can see what exactly God is calling us to. There are two different types of holiness: positional holiness and progressive holiness. When we say yes to Jesus we are given positional holiness—meaning, positioned before God we are holy and blameless. This is possible not because of anything we have done, but because of the work of Christ on the cross. At the same time, we live in a fallen world and are going through the process of sanctification, the process of looking more like Jesus. We are progressing in our holiness as we learn to say no to sin and yes to the growth found in Christ.

So, what does it mean to be holy? Holiness is to be set apart for a purpose. This is not something we achieve; rather, we receive it from Jesus. We can pursue progressive holiness through honest self-examination. We all have sins in our life we are prone to, or prejudices in our hearts that we carry around. Through honest self-examination we can identify those sins and prejudices—and we can ask God to cleanse us and shape us more into the image of His Son. Pursuing this holiness will develop environments in which we can cultivate healing and produce maturity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upward

- Read Leviticus 11:44-45. What does it mean that God is holy? Why does He command that we consecrate ourselves to be holy as well?
- How does remembering the holiness of God change your heart posture towards Him?

Inward

- Have you heard the difference between positional holiness and progressive holiness in the past? Why is this an important distinction?
- How can you practice honest self-examination in your life?
- Read Colossians 3:12-15. We are to “put on” compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, and love. Do you struggle with any of these?

Outward

- Love is the perfect bond of unity. Who do you feel separated from? How can you pursue a relationship with love so you can be united?

Soul Tattoo: You are set apart for a purpose.

Action Step: Take time this week for honest self-examination about prejudices you might have in your heart.