

PERSONAL HOLINESS

By Keith Greer

God's word teaches us "**to be holy**," But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." {1 Peter 1:15,16} How can we as God's children carry out this duty in our lives?

With heartfelt worship. "Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His footstool-He is holy." (Psalm 99:5) "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24) When we come to worship God we must do so with reverence, respect and with the proper motive in our hearts. This is the only type of worship that will be acceptable to our Holy God.

In our conduct. "I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness." {Romans 6:19} The lives of God's people must be holy. Our conduct must be above reproach and in accordance to His divine will. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service." {Romans 12:1}

In our family life. "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her." (Ephesians 5:25) "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:22) "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise." {Ephesians 6:1,2} God's children should be the perfect model for the world concerning marriage, husbands and wives duties and the raising of our children. People of the world should be able to see a difference in our family and those in the world. Only by attaining to this "personal holiness" will we be effective in leading others to the gospel.

Each individual Christian is responsible unto God to live a life that clearly expresses to the world that we have a different standard that we live by. Our personal conduct is always promoting God's ways to those who are in the world of sin and darkness. One's influence in this world is seeking to convince others the advantages of living holy lives. Do you have a holy life? ***