

## Sermon Discussion Questions for January 17, 2016

Luke 5:1-11; “Jesus Is Holy”

### A. The “Trauma of Holiness”

1. What explains Peter’s response to Christ in this narrative?
2. How did Isaiah offer a similar response when he encountered the holiness of God (*Isaiah 6*)? Why did he cry out, “*Woe is me . . . I am a man of unclean lips . . .*”
3. Have you ever been “traumatized” by God’s holiness?
4. How does the gospel increase our respect for God’s holiness?
5. How does the gospel decrease (or remove) our fear of God’s holy judgment against our sin (*Romans 8:1*)?

### B. “Positional” Holiness

1. In what ways does the Bible speak of us as already being “holy” (*Colossians 3:12*; *I Peter 2:9*) in God’s sight? What is “imputed righteousness” (*Romans 4*) and on what basis does God view us a “holy”?
2. Do you view yourself the way that God views you? If so, what does that produce in you? If not, what does that produce in you?

### C. “Practical / Progressive Holiness

1. In what ways are we to pursue holiness (*Rom. 12:1*; *Eph. 1:4*; *I Peter 1:15*)?
2. What do you use as the “yardstick” or “standard” of holiness (the lives of others, the rules you keep, the things you avoid . . .)? What is the only yardstick taught in Scripture (*I Peter 1:15*)?

### D. Christian holiness in an unholy culture

1. In what ways is Christian holiness an offense to our secular culture?
2. Do you know anyone who mocks you because of your moral standards and convictions? What is your biblical response to that critic?
3. The gospel has a “built in” offense to it (*II Cor. 2:15-17*). In what ways have you/we added to the offense of the gospel by our attitudes, speech, and actions towards unbelievers? When this occurs, do you/we repent?

### E. In what area(s) of your/our life is God calling you/us to deeper holiness?

1. Our attitude toward other people that we do not like
2. Our speech (gossip, slander, innuendo)
3. Our relationships
4. Our sexuality
5. Our financial stewardship
6. Our prejudices

### F. In what way(s) is the *gospel* our only hope and source of power for our “positional holiness”; our “progressive” holiness; and our “courageous holiness” in the face of opposition and persecution?