

## Why Holiness 1 Corinthians 10.1-17

**Introduction:** Teaching children how to behave has always been an adventure. Typically, they always ask why? Why must they learn how to read, why must they eat the veggies. The church in Corinth was being given life lessons as well, spiritual life lessons. And in our passage, Paul takes a turn, as if they, like children do, and since they have the spiritual understanding of children (3.1), had asked why. Why is it important to be holy, to live differently from the world?

1. We are called to be Holy
  - a. The Call to be Holy: 1 Pet 1.16 exhorts believers to live holy lives because God is holy. Children often imitate their father. Jesus said as much in John 5.19,
  - b. Paul starts off drawing comparison to Israel in desert. They followed Christ, we follow Christ.
  - c. They were given God's ways, and rebelled, causing His anger to burn against them.
  
2. We can stumble.
  - a. Compare ourselves with those alive in the desert? Are we better?
  - b. Yet that is pride. Israelites + pride= they stumbled. Corinth Church became proud, they became blind and stumbled.
  - c. Yet we can become proud, and stumble. Accepting Christ doesn't equal salvation.
  - d. Consider Matthew 7.23: Jesus tells us not even doing the miracles he did will assure a place in His kingdom, but living for Him is the key.
  
3. Our actions affect the Body, because of the Lord's Supper.
  - a. Strep infection in leg affected heart, kidneys, body
  - b. Sin affected the church of Corinth
  - c. Acts 4.36. Joseph of Cypress was positive affect on body.

What can we do? Matthew 6.23, seek his righteousness, live for Him. Romans 12.2, transform through renewing of the mind, 1 Cor 10.13-14, flee and look for the exit to stand in the midst of temptation.

Are you living for Christ? Do you need prayer to help your life return on track?

Perhaps you haven't been clothed in Christ. Then now is the time to come forward.