

Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer

James@jcpineville.com

www.jcpineville.com



Session 3 Leader Guide

OUTLINE

- I. It is through the fear of the Lord that one departs from evil (see Proverbs 16:6).
 - A. It is not the *love* of God but the *fear* of God that enables us to walk away from sin.
 - B. Millions of Christians are in danger because they *love* Jesus but do not *fear* God.

- II. There are two ditches that line the narrow road leading to salvation.
 - A. The first ditch is legalism, which ignores the love of God.
 - B. The second ditch is lawlessness, which ignores the fear of God.
 - C. As a church, we have moved away from the first ditch and fallen into the second.

- III. Holy fear is critical for finishing well as a disciple of Jesus.
 - A. It's not how we start the race that counts but how we finish it.
 - B. Christianity is not a sprint but an endurance run.
 - C. The spirit of the fear of the Lord is one of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit.
 - D. The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever (see Psalm 19:9).

- IV. Holiness is misunderstood by so many people today.
 - A. Holiness means belonging completely to God. It is being set apart for God.
 - B. Holiness is cleansing ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit (see 2 Corinthians 7:1).
 - C. We mature our salvation through the fear of the Lord (see Philippians 2:12).
 - D. Holiness is not an end to itself but is a doorway into deeper intimacy with God.

- V. The difference between positional holiness and behavioral holiness.
 - A. *Positional* holiness applies to our status as saved members of God's kingdom.
 - B. Our position in God's kingdom does not change from year to year or decade to decade.
 - C. *Behavioral* holiness applies to the way we live out our status-our actions and attitudes.
 - D. Our actions can-and should-change as we grow and are sanctified.

Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer

James@jcpineville.com

www.jcpineville.com



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In this week's teaching, you heard about a former pastor who ended up in federal prison. He claimed that he *loved* Jesus but that he did not *fear* God. How do you respond to that claim?
2. Legalism is one of the ditches we can fall into as we walk the narrow road of salvation. What examples of legalism have you witnessed during your time as a follower of Christ?
3. Lawlessness is the other ditch that we can fall into as we walk the road of salvation. What are the dangers of falling into lawlessness-both for individuals and for the church?
4. Holiness simply means being "set apart." Those who are holy are set apart exclusively for God's kingdom and belong completely to Him. In your experience, what does holiness look like in everyday life? How can you recognize that reality in others and in yourself?
5. It is important to remember that the goal of fearing God-just like the goal of holiness-is not to gain "spiritual points" but to develop a deeper intimacy with Christ. What are some ways you have experienced that intimacy, that connection, in recent months?