

Godliness Week 4 | Day 1 Read 2 Peter 1:3-6

The word "godliness" is sometimes used to describe someone who acts like God; someone who does godly, good, or moral things. But the biblical definition of the Greek word we translate as godliness isn't just about our actions. It's about the attitude of our hearts toward God, and it means piety or devotion toward God. It comes from a combination of two words in the original language, "well" and "revere" (or "pay homage to" or "worship").

At its core, godliness is about who we worship and serve with our lives. We can do a lot of good things without a heart of worship, without the motivation of wanting to honor God with our lives. But it is only godliness if we do godly things with the purpose and intention of worshiping and honoring God with our lives.

Godliness is a heart of worship and a life that lives it out.

Reflection Questions:

Is your heart fully committed and surrendered to God in worship? Does your heart desire to honor God with all you are and all you have? Does your lifestyle reflect a heart of worship? How can you make decisions that bring glory to God?

Prayer:

Dear God, we want to honor you not only with our words but with our whole lives, but sometimes it's hard. Sometimes our actions don't match our words. Give us a heart of worship that desires to honor you in everything we think, say, and do. In Jesus's name, Amen.

Knowledge of the Truth Leads to Godliness

Week 4 | Day 2 Read Titus 1:1–3

Paul opens this letter to Titus, one of his "sons" in the faith, by saying that knowledge of the truth leads to godliness. This isn't just knowing the truth about Jesus, although we need informational knowledge about the gospel as well. Biblical "knowledge of the truth" is about knowing Jesus himself, as a person. Because Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6).

Knowing Jesus leads to godliness because when we really know Jesus and how incredible He is, we want to worship and honor Him with our lives. We want to be like Him. And as we walk in fellowship with Him, we grow more and more like Him.

The key to godliness is knowing Jesus. And the more we spend quality time with Jesus, the more deeply we will know Him and grow in godliness.

Reflection Questions:

Reflect on your relationship with Jesus right now. How are you walking in fellowship with Him?

How do you see the character of Jesus reflected in your life? In what ways are you living like Him? In what ways do you need to grow to be more like Him?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for wanting to know us personally. Thank you for the incredible gift of intimate relationship and fellowship with you through Jesus. Help us to see how we can grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus and give us the strength and desire to pursue it. In Jesus's name, Amen.

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For God's Glory, Not Ours

Week 4 | Day 3 Read 2 Peter 1:5-6 and Acts 3:1-16

In the New Testament, Jesus did all kinds of miracles—healings, casting out demons, walking on water, and more. This kind of power proved to people He was sent from God (John 3:2).

He also gave His disciples supernatural power when He sent them out to share the gospel so people would believe they were sent from God (Matthew 10:1).

Then in Acts, after the Holy Spirit was poured out on them, the disciples did all kinds of miracles. But they always pointed back to the power coming from God, not their own power or godliness.

They didn't manufacture this power on their own, through their godliness. It was given to them as a gift by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of honoring God, bringing glory to His name, and helping people believe the truth of the gospel.

When Peter healed the lame man in this story, he did it "in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth." When people wondered at how he was able to do it, he pointed directly to Jesus.

As Jesus himself and his apostles demonstrated, true godliness desires for God to be glorified.

Reflection Questions:

How have you seen God use you as a vessel to bring glory to Himself and spread the gospel through you?

How can you listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and follow however He leads like the apostles did in Acts?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for giving us your supernatural power through the Holy Spirit. Give us wisdom to know how to bring honor to your name and accomplish your mission of sharing the gospel with the world. Show us how you want us to live and give us the wisdom to follow the guidance of your Holy Spirit. In Jesus's name, Amen.

Godliness and Contentment

Week 4 | *Day 4* **Read 2 Peter 1:5–6 and 1 Timothy 6:3–12**

Paul describes those who don't align with sound teaching and godliness as full of themselves but understanding nothing, lacking contentment. When we try to find our value, hope, purpose, and happiness in the way we look or what we have or anything else about our circumstances, we will never be truly content, because those things can shift at any moment.

But Jesus never changes. Godliness is the only path to contentment because godliness is finding our hope, joy, value, and purpose in Jesus.

Paul told the Philippians he had learned the secret of being content no matter what his circumstances were, and the secret was Jesus (Philippians 4:11-13).

Like Paul, we can be content no matter our circumstances, if we look to God rather than our situation for our strength and hope.

Reflection Questions:

Where have you tried to find contentment in your life?

How can you learn to find your hope, confidence, value, and strength in Christ alone?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for the gift of contentment through Jesus. Help us when we struggle with feeling discontent, not good enough, or lacking in comparison to others. Help us to find joy in you even when our circumstances are not ideal by human standards. Show us how to have contentment in every circumstance. In Jesus's name, Amen.

Godliness as a Witness

Week 4 | *Day 5* **Read 2 Peter 1:5–6 and 1 Timothy 2:1–6**

Paul wrote that God desires all people to be saved. As His people, we should have the same heart for unbelievers that He has. Our lives can be a witness to them in a way that draws them to Jesus, as "with all godliness and holiness" we love and care for and pray for them. People are drawn to Jesus when they see our hearts of compassion and lives of service toward those in need.

When they see our godliness—our heart of worship that plays out in the way we live as living sacrifices for Jesus—our lives will look different from the chaos, outrage, discord, gossip, and backbiting that surround us. Like a refuge in a storm.

We draw people to Jesus by creating homes, families, and communities of peace, love, and godliness that can be a refuge from the chaos of the world. True godliness is being for the lost of this world, loving them the way Jesus would and showing them Jesus through how we live. **Reflection Questions:**

How were you initially drawn to Jesus? How were other people involved in drawing you to Jesus?

In what ways can your family, friends, or church community be a refuge for unbelievers from the storm of the world? What specific things can you do to create a peaceful refuge in your life and your home?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us when we were still unbelievers. Help me have the same heart toward those who don't yet know you. Thank you for the gifts of peace, love, and joy in the midst of this unsettled world. Help my life and my home be a place of refuge in the chaos. In Jesus's name, Amen.

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