

# INTRODUCTION

As a church, we are asking God for revival. However, as Pastor Brian has stated, if revival were to happen, we would not be ready for it. That is why we must first seek *Renewal!* In our fast-paced, distraction-filled world, it's easy for our hearts to grow weary, our faith to feel stagnant, and our vision of God to become clouded. Thankfully, God, in His infinite love and mercy, continually invites us into deeper intimacy with Him—an intimacy that renews our spirits, purifies our hearts, and transforms our lives.

This study is designed to guide you in rediscovering the wonder of God's holiness, the awe of His majesty, and the joy of living in close communion with Him. Through Scripture, prayer, and honest reflection, you will journey together to confront the idols that compete for your devotion and realign your heart with the One who alone is worthy of your worship.

## WHAT TO EXPECT:

- 1. Week 1 Holiness & Consecration: God calls us to be holy as He is holy (1 Peter 1:16). But what does holiness mean in practical terms? In this study, we will explore how God's holiness is not just a distant attribute but an invitation to live set apart for Him. We'll examine how holiness reshapes our character and aligns us with His purposes.
- 2. Week 2 The Awe of God: When was the last time you felt truly awestruck by God? As we open our hearts to the grandeur of His creation, the depth of His wisdom, and the power of His love, we will rediscover a sense of reverence and wonder that fuels our worship and deepens our trust.
- 3. Week 3 Intimacy with God: God desires to walk with us, just as He walked with Adam and Eve in the garden. Through prayer, meditation on His Word, and moments of quiet surrender, we will cultivate a deeper relationship with God—one that transforms every area of our lives.
- 4. Week 4 Evangelism and Sharing The Hope of Christ: Jesus commissions us to make disciples. We must be fervent in prayer for those who are far from God and ask Him how we can BLESS them.

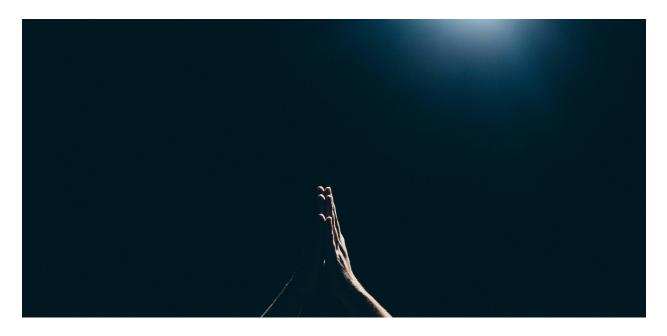
# DURING THIS STUDY YOU WILL HAVE ...

- **Engaging Discussions**: Each session will center on a specific passage of Scripture and include thought-provoking questions to spark meaningful conversations.
- **Personal Reflection**: Between meetings, you'll be encouraged to spend time in prayer and reflection, allowing God to speak directly to your heart. Know this, God wants to meet with you...but you will get out of this study what you put into it. (this is in the YOUR NEXT STEP section)
- **Practical Application**: You will explore tangible ways to live out what you're learning, from meditating on scripture, to sharing your hope in Christ with others.

As you start this journey, lean in with an open heart and an expectant spirit. God's Word promises that when we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us (James 4:8). Let's take that step of faith, trusting that He will meet us, renew us, and lead us into deeper holiness, awe, and intimacy with Him.

#### Take a moment and begin with this prayer:

Heavenly Father, I come before You with a humble heart, longing for renewal. Teach me to walk in Your ways, to see You with fresh eyes, and to love You with an undivided heart. Remove any idols that may distract me, and draw me closer to Your holy presence. I want to encounter you in a fresh, new way. In Jesus' name, Amen.



# **SESSION 1: HOLINESS**

Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8, Hebrews 12:14

Introduction: Take a moment to share what comes to mind when you think of *holiness* and *consecration*.

Holiness is at the very heart of who God is, and He calls us to reflect His holiness in our lives. In Isaiah 6:1-8, the prophet Isaiah encounters God's holiness in a vision of awe-inspiring majesty and purity. Overwhelmed by the presence of the Lord, Isaiah responds in humility and repentance, recognizing his own unworthiness.

Similarly, Hebrews 12:14 exhorts us to "make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord." That's a pretty amazing statement! In this session, we will reflect on how God's holiness transforms us, calling us to live lives set apart and fully devoted to Him. Holiness is not about striving for perfection but about allowing God's Spirit to work in us, shaping us to reflect His character and love.



# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

In Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah is overwhelmed by God's holiness. How does his response challenge or inspire your understanding of what it means to encounter a holy God?

Can you share a time when you've experienced God in a way that truly gripped you?

When Isaiah says, "Woe is me!" he acknowledges his sinfulness in the presence of God's holiness. How does this passage help you see your own need for God's grace?

Hebrews 12:14 calls us to pursue peace with others and holiness. How do you see these two commands working together in your own life?

Isaiah's encounter with God ends with his willingness to say, "Here am I. Send me!" What might God be calling you to do as you grow in your understanding of His holiness?

## YOUR NEXT STEP

What practical steps can you take this week to "make every effort to be holy" as described in Hebrews 12:14? How can your group support one another in this pursuit?

# **SESSION 2: AWE OF GOD**

Scriptures: Psalm 33:8; Job 37:14-24

Introduction: Share about a time you were amazed by something in nature or creation. How did that experience make you feel?

A sense of awe is foundational to our relationship with God. In Psalm 33:8, we are called to revere Him, while Job's reflections in Job chapter 37 remind us of God's infinite power and majesty. He is absolutely beyond our human comprehension. Awe isn't just a fleeting emotion; it's a posture of the heart that acknowledges God's greatness and humbles us before Him. This session invites us to reflect on the awe of God and consider how it shapes our worship, obedience, and daily lives.



# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Read Psalm 33:8, then discuss what it means to "fear the Lord" in a way that leads to reverence rather than fearfulness.

Job 37:14-24 describes God's unparalleled power in creation. What stands out to you about God's character in these verses?

How do moments of awe help us understand our place in relation to God?

Psalm 33:8 speaks of the whole earth fearing and revering God. What are some ways we can help others see God's greatness?

Awe often leads to a response. How does Job's reflection on God's power inspire humility and worship in you?

## YOUR NEXT STEP

Reflect on one aspect of God's majesty that fills you with awe. Spend time this week meditating on it through prayer, journaling, or worship.

Consider sharing your experience of God's greatness with someone else to encourage their faith.

As a group, brainstorm one way you can collectively express awe and gratitude to God (e.g., serving others, a worship night, or a nature hike).

#### **Optional Scriptures for Further Study:**

Exodus 15:11, Psalm 8:1-4, Romans 1:20

# **SESSION 3: INTIMACY WITH GOD**

Scriptures: James 4:8, Psalm 63:1-8

Introduction: Take a moment to reflect on the word "intimacy." What emotions or thoughts does it evoke? How do you think intimacy applies to your relationship with God? What are some daily practices that help you draw near to God?

A close and intimate relationship with God is central to the Christian faith. James 4:8 invites us to draw near to God with the promise that He will draw near to us. Similarly, Psalm 63 portrays a deep longing for God's presence, likening it to thirst in a dry land. This session explores what it means to pursue intimacy with God, overcome barriers, and experience the blessings of a closer walk with Him.



# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Read James 4:8. What does this verse teach us about our role in pursuing intimacy with God?

Psalm 63:1-8 describes David's longing for God. How does this passage inspire you personally to seek closeness with Him?

What are common barriers that prevent us from drawing near to God (e.g., distractions, sin, fear, doubt)?

Share a time when you felt distant from God. What contributed to that feeling, and how did you work through it?

What are some ways we can overcome these barriers and stay consistent in pursuing God?

What are the benefits of intimacy with God, as seen in Psalm 63:1-8? *(Ex: satisfaction, joy, protection, strength)* 

# YOUR NEXT STEP

Commit to one specific practice this week to deepen your relationship with God — for example: a daily quiet time, journaling prayers, or Scripture meditation.

Reflect on Psalm 63 each day, allowing it to inspire your pursuit of intimacy with God.

Consider partnering with someone in the group for mutual encouragement and accountability in drawing near to God.

**Optional Scriptures for Further Study:** *John 15:4–5, Psalm 27:4–8, Matthew 11:28–30* 

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## **SESSION 4: EVANGELISM & OUR HOPE IN CHRIST**

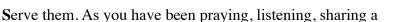
Introduction: Take a moment to reflect on the word "evangelism." How does it make you feel? Excited? Nervous? Why do you think sharing the hope of Christ is both a privilege and a responsibility for Christians?

Evangelism is central to the Christian mission. In Matthew 28:16-20, Jesus commissions His disciples to spread the gospel, assuring them of His presence. Similarly, in 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Paul reminds us that our confidence in sharing Christ comes not from our own abilities but from the power of God. This session will explore how we can effectively share the hope we have in Christ with those who do not yet know Him. At West Ridge - we use the B.L.E.S.S. strategy:

**B**egin with prayer. Who in your life needs Jesus? If you do not have someone in mind immediately, pray for God to show you. He will answer that prayer!

Listen to them. As you pray for the person God has placed on your heart to BLESS, begin listening to their story. We cannot share the hope of Jesus with someone if they feel like they are just a project to us.

Eat with them. Share a meal (or five) with them. There is something uniquely spiritual about sitting down across from others and sharing a meal together. The walls of insecurity and awkwardness begin to break down. Laughter happens and friendships can be formed.





meal together - seek ways to serve them. What is God revealing to you about this person that is giving you insight into how you might serve them and their family? Do it!

Share Jesus with them. There is a reason this is the end of the strategy and not the first step. You've built trust and a relationship with someone. You've shared a table with them, you've listened to what is going on in their life and now God is opening a door for you to share the hope of Jesus Christ with them. Be obedient when God opens that door.

Read Matthew 28:16-20. What stands out to you about Jesus' command to make disciples?

How does the promise of Jesus' presence ("I am with you always") encourage you in implementing the BLESS strategy?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. How does Paul's approach to sharing the gospel inspire you?

What does this passage teach us about relying on God's Spirit rather than our own abilities?

## YOUR NEXT STEP

Remember the BLESS strategy:

Begin with prayer... Listen to them... Eat with them... Serve them... Share Jesus with them...

This week, ask God to open a door for you to share the hope of Christ with someone in your life. These do not all happen in one sitting, pray that God helps you take the best next step.

If you feel comfortable, share the person you intend to BLESS and take a moment to pray for them together.

#### **Optional Scripture for Further Reflection:**

Romans 10:14-15, 2 Timothy 1:7-8, 1 Peter 3:15