

# Prerequisites to Truth

## Lesson 5

### Holy Character

# 1. What is holiness?

1 Peter 1:16- **Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**

-Separation from sin unto God likeness. God is holy.

-Taking on the true character of Jesus Christ by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.  
Not a shabby imitation of our own ideas and effort.

-Sanctification is God's holy fire burning away all that opposes God in us.  
We receive this fire through the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire.

Matt 3:11-12- **"I baptize you with water, for repentance, but the one coming after me is more powerful than I am—I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clean out his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the storehouse, but the chaff he will burn up with inextinguishable **fire.**"

Even our bodies are to be the Holy dwelling of God.

Rom. 12:1- **I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.**

## 2. Receiving Truth

-Matt. 5:6- **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

-Heb. 12:14 **Pursue peace with everyone, and holiness, for without it no one will see the Lord.**

Our capacity to be able to receive truth is directly related to the purity of our heart and holiness. This is the core of our Christ likeness.

Receiving truth increases our purity and our spiritual capacity to receive more truth.

-Only the author of a book fully understands his book. The more we take on the character of the author of the bible the greater the capacity to understand its truths.

- True holy character is manifest in Godly attitudes, purity of thought, control of the body and acts of love.

### 3. Spiritual authority.

-Without holiness there is no authority.

Matt 18:20

**For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.**

-Our spiritual authority will be proportional to our conformity to the possessor of that authority even Jesus Christ.

-God cannot give His authority to those who may not be qualified and would abuse it.

-He is looking for trustworthy friends.

-Luke 16:11- **If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*?**

Luke 19:17- **And the king said to him, 'Well done, good slave! Because you have been faithful in a very small matter, you will have authority over ten cities.'**

John 15:14- **You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you slaves, because the slave does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I have revealed to you everything I heard from my Father.**

God also called Abraham, Moses and others His friends to whom He could entrust His riches.

Are you a friend of God? Can you be trusted with His truth and authority? He will prepare us.