



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: **Lexicon of Faith: A Fresh Look at Ancient Words – Holy**
Speaker: **Shauna Rushing – Small Groups & Communities Pastor**
Scripture: **1 Peter 2:1-6, 9-10**

2 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. **2** Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, **3** now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— **5** you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house^[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”^[b]

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9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. **10** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (NIV)

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, we continue our summer sermon series titled, Lexicon of Faith. This series explores 8 popular Bible words that many people have misunderstood or misused. **Holy** is a word often associated with the character of God or obtaining moral perfection, but have you ever considered it as an identity, something that is true of us as God’s people? Come explore what holiness means with Pastor Shauna.

Sermon Questions:

1. When you hear the word holy what comes to mind?
2. New Testament theologian David Peterson says “With regard to God himself, holiness implies transcendence, uniqueness, and purity. With regard to God’s people, holiness means being set apart for a relationship with the Holy One, to display his character in every sphere of life.” How does this definition of holiness and what Pastor Shauna shared change or reinforce how you have understood holiness?
3. Have you considered holiness as an identity before? How do you feel about being called a saint and a holy one?
4. Which temptation Pastor Shauna mentioned when it comes to holiness did you most resonate with and why?

- Disqualifying yourself for not measuring up
 - Priding yourself on your own moral behavior and achievement while disqualifying and judging others
 - Exhausting yourself trying to prove your worthiness
 - Hyper focusing on certain behaviors instead of focusing on what's most important- loving God and your neighbor
5. What do you find compelling about God's character and nature? How have you tasted his goodness in a fresh way recently?