



No Vacancy

Part 1 - "Making Room By Making Time"

Small Group Material

November 27th, 2016

Participant Guide

Bottom Line: *In order to see Him, we must make room in our lives to look.*

Study Verses: *1 Peter 1:13-16, 1 John 3:1-3, Leviticus 11:44-45, 1 Samuel 12:16, Habakkuk 2:20 and Matthew 11:28-30*

Key Points

- *The normal, natural pace of life does not push one towards spiritual formation.*
- *Embracing the future requires dealing with the past.*
- *Our lives are full of what we make room for.*
- *Holiness isn't about our behavior, but our purpose. Holiness means to be "set apart."*
- *Unfinished business bogs down new beginnings.*
- *Time is a carrier of grace and that's why it heals. We get grace in each moment.*

ENCOUNTER

- Complete the following sentence: 2016 has been a year of _____. What makes you answer in the way that you do?
- How do you tend to handle the hustle and bustle of the holiday season? How would you describe your current pace? Is it pushing you towards or away from spiritual formation?

- Holiness isn't about our behavior, but our purpose. Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? How do you tend to define holiness?

FORMATION

- Read 1 Peter 1:13-16 and Leviticus 11:44-45. How would our approach to spiritual formation change if we viewed holiness as being "set apart? How can one pursue holiness in their schedule?
- Read 1 John 3:1-3. What role does understanding our identity have in what we value and pursue?
- Read 1 Samuel 12:16, Habakkuk 2:20 and Matthew 11:28-30. Why does God command us to be still? What does God promise us if we slow down, trust Him and embrace solitude?

EXPRESSION

- Embracing the future requires dealing with your past. What is the danger and cost to your future when you allow things to remain unfinished?
- Where are you reluctant to deal with your past? What is creating this hesitation (pride, fear, doubt, unforgiveness, worry, etc.)?
- How could you leverage the month of December to create momentum heading into 2017? What would it look like to make space in your life during the holiday season to hear God's voice?