



#6 The Handhold of GODLINESS

Warm-up Questions:

Our last session focused on PERSEVERANCE.

- Is it encouraging or discouraging to know that sometimes this is the Next Right Thing?
- What are some ways to encourage someone who is persevering through an unending trial? What does more harm than good?

Inductive Bible Study:

Observation (what does it say?) SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME HERE!

As you read the text, ask: WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW?

Circle and draw lines to similar thoughts. Notice contrasts and key words.

Interpretation (what does it mean?)

- What are the author’s central thoughts to the reader?
- What is the context (time, place, circumstance, audience)?
- What spiritual principle or lifestyle change is addressed?

Application (what does it mean for my life?)

- What action step would demonstrate my obedience to what God is saying in this passage?

Isaiah 1:12-17

12 When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? 13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your worthless assemblies. 14 Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become



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a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. 15 When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood! 16 Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. 17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. [a] Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Matthew 23:25-28

25 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. 26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. 27 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. 28 In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

Examine these texts to discover fake forms of GODLINESS. Then share your findings with your triad.

- If this depicts counterfeit Godliness, then what is true Godliness?
- In your church or family history, how has Godliness been equated with performance and pressures to conform, but not true humility before God?





SESSION GUIDE:

**DO THE
NEXT
RIGHT
THING**
ROGER THOMPSON



T E A C H I N G

Action Steps:

Some of us have learned a toxic view of repentance: from an angry parent demanding it, or from a pressuring, manipulative preacher, or from the shame of failure, or from a chronic sense of defectiveness.

Spend your final time together sharing in your triad about how differently repentance is portrayed in these two scriptures than is commonly experienced.

Acts 3:19-20

19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

2 Corinthians 7:9--11

9 yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. 10 Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. 11 See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter.

- Knowing this, how does it affect my willingness to approach God every day with my sins and failures?

Pray for each other to be free of shame and alive to true godliness.

Prepare for Session #7:
Read chapter 8 in DNRT: BROTHERLY KINDNESS