
Holiness – Te Tapu Workshop

Through us Gods presence goes out into the world bringing light, healing and hope

WELCOME:

(5 min)

Welcome all participants, and introduce yourself.

Explain the format of the day and any house-keeping/safety announcements.

Begin by outlining the Learning Intentions. You may like to display these so that you can refer back to them throughout the session.

LEARNING INTENTIONS:

**We will explore Te Tapu - Holiness and how to recognise it.
We will look at how holiness means becoming more whole, more fully human.
We will explore how we can be more holy in our lives by answering the universal call to holiness.**

INTRODUCTION:

(20- 30 minutes)

(Material Needed: images of people going about things in their everyday lives)

- Begin by putting the children/adults into small groups of about 3-5. Ask each group to look at the images in front of them and place them into 2 groups. 1 group to represent the holy people and 1 group to represent those people who are not holy.
- Encourage the groups to discuss what the people are doing, what they might be saying or how they might be acting or behaving. Have them create realistic stories about the images

e.g. This parent is vacuuming the house and is angry about it because he is sick of tidying up after everyone all the time. As he vacuums he wishes that the people in the house would think more about how busy he is and about all the things that he does around the house.

OR This parent is vacuuming the house. He is tired after a long day and doesn't really enjoy it but knows that he wants to show his family that he cares for them and this is one way he can show it.



Write up or display the following phrase and discuss what it means: (attached in resources)

Holiness doesn't mean doing extra-ordinary things but, doing ordinary things with love and faith.
Pope Francis

Finish this first activity by introducing this quote. Ask the groups to quietly consider if this quote would change the groupings of the people they have created.

.....

ICE BREAKER GAMES:

(15 -20 minutes)

Wholly human as God created us to be!

(Material Needed: some painters tape and either card or ping-pong balls with these words on them:

Generous, approachable, giving, persistent, leader, selfless, integrity, helper, grounded, reliable, connected, humble, passionate, diligent, genuine, loving, warm, honest forgiving, joyful, confident, uses gifts for others, fun, hard working)

- This warm up game lightly illustrates that when we are not 'wholly human' the journey of life can be so much more challenging! God wants us to be all we can be – to embrace our humanity.

To set up: Using painter's tape, create a line of any length and be sure to add some turns and angles or even go over furniture. If you have room you can set up one or more and turn this into a relay challenge.

- Each player stands at the end of the line 'life's journey' and needs to make their way to the other end without falling off as quickly as they can.
- The challenge is to do it like other animals ... not a human!
 1. Hop like a frog
 2. Slither like a snake
 3. Jump like a kangaroo
 4. Crawl like a lizard
 5. Finally walk like a human (for this leg they pick up a bag/back pack that contains examples of things that make us whole humans. You can write these on ping-pong balls, or on pieces of card.)
- At the end of the race ask the group what things they might expect to find in the bag, that shows they are 'whole humans'. Then pass the bag around and get participants to read out the words they find inside. Are there any other words that they think need to be added?)

Finish this game by making a statement about God creating us to be fully-wholly human! Not like a snake, or a frog or a kangaroo, but like someone who is celebrating **all** the gifts that God has given us. All those things that make us human! (Refer to the attributes in the 'humanity bag')

Te Tapu - Community

(Material Needed: (A photo of a lego creation and enough pieces to recreate it) x by how many groups you have 3-6 sets)

- The next game reminds us that we are only ever wholly human when we are in community when we are in relationship or when we 'work' with others. We can't be human on our own we need each other.

To set up: All the group goes out of the room with a photo of the lego creation they have to build. In the main room set up one table per group. On the table place the lego pieces required to complete the creation (NO PHOTOS inside). Only 1 member of the group can come into the table at a time. The rest of the groups remains outside working out a plan/strategy. People get 30 secs at the table and can come in as many times as they like in the 5 mins. The object is to be the first group to complete the correct recreation of the lego.

- The groups have to work together to communicate what the lego creation looks like and what needs to be done to complete it.
- Give the groups 5 minutes to complete the task.
- This game is really challenging and shows how we rely on each other and work together to build the creation.
- God reminds us that to be wholly human we also rely on others. We can't do this life thing on our own. We need each other and we need the earth.
- Introduce this poster:

It is through relationships that we are holy.
Relationship with God.
Relationship with ourselves and others.
Relationship with creation.

DISCUSSION:

(10-15 min)

We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness
in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves.
Let everything be open to God.
Pope Francis

These are some definitions of Holiness – Te Tapu. (see definitions poster resource)
In your small groups discuss these definitions and then spend some time answering the questions:

You may need to spend some time explaining what it means to 'bear witness' in the things we do.

Demonstrate or show evidence of ...

Holiness is responding to God by living a life in truth, love and justice.
Holiness is the work of the Spirit. It is part of who we all are and leads us to action.
Holiness is not something you earn it is a free gift from God given in love.
Holiness is about becoming whole, connected and inclusive.
Holiness is essential to our Christian identity.
Holiness is not something you can create - you already have it. Holiness is something you can reveal to others through your words and actions.

- Can you think of good/holy people in your life? Why do you think they are good/holy people?
- Can you think of someone who:
stands up for others/plays fair/is kind/generous/patient/genuine/involved in community?
- Can you share a story about someone who uses their gifts to improve the lives of others?
- Think about the people in your family and your friends is there something unique and special about them?
- Can you think of how you can reveal your holiness to others?

(allow time for discussion between families/groups before sharing some responses)

These are all examples of holiness at work in people.
Holiness is always there, but sometimes we don't recognise it or take the time to see it.

GROUP WORK: (You can choose 1 or all three of these activities)

(30 - 90 min)

We are all called to be holy.
"God wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland mediocre existence."
Pope Francis

Saints Next Door Drama:

(30 min)

(Material needed: props are optional)

Take one of these scenarios and create a small skit showing how the people/person can be a 'saint next door' and reveal their holiness in their actions and attitude. Encourage the students to be someone who lives their life doing the 'little things with love'.

- Hanging out in town with friends.
- Playing at the park with family.
- Being involved with your community.
- Being involved with some environmental activity
- Visiting grandparents.
- Hanging out the washing

- Divide the children into groups of varying abilities
- Allow 10 minutes to create the drama

Think about how you can **reveal** your holiness. What does it look like, sound like, feel like?

- As you move around the groups encourage them to identify and highlight the moments of holiness. Reinforce these by relating them back to Jesus.
- e.g. Yes, just like Jesus who is forgiving we saw holiness in this drama when ...
Just like Jesus who modelled holiness for us we see it when we noticed compassion from ...

Holiness in art:

(30 min)

(Material needed: White art paper, black colouring pencils/pens, and enough yellow dots for everyone.)

Directions

1. Start by placing the yellow dot anywhere on your page.
2. Use this dot as inspiration to create a piece of art that shows someone being a 'saint next door' and revealing the light of their holiness to others.
3. You may want to caption the art with ... 'We reveal our holiness when...' or 'We are saints when ...'



We reveal our holiness when
we care for God's creation



We are saints when we share with others.

SHARE THE GOSPEL: (5 min)

(Material needed: Bible)

We are transformed by God's holiness.
If we allow God to be in our lives our lives become more whole.

2 TIMOTHY 1:9

By the power of God who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

This is the Word of the Lord.

SONG:

(15 min)

(Materials needed: computer with song and sound system)

Below are a few different options for song choices that you can include anywhere in the workshop to break the sessions up or to change the mood/focus. Depending on your ability and confidence. Some of them are more upbeat and lend themselves to actions while some are more reflective and quiet.

- *You may want to learn this song as a whole group*
- *Then break up into smaller groups to add actions to the verses.*
- *Return to the main group and sing through together with each group showing the actions they have created*
- *You may also like to have it as a reflection that you just sit with and listen too. It can help to have a focus for the children like a candle or an image that they can look at, they may also feel comfortable to lie back close their eyes and just listen.*

Be God's Love –Aroha by Andrew Chin

God Delights in You by Monica Brown

These Hands – Andrew Chin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeG8puCiErY>

PRAYER SESSION:

(10-15min)

(Materials needed: computer with song and sound system, prayer table, prayer cloth, candles and matches, scripture and prayers on card/power point for people to read)

Prepare a prayer focus/table that has one main candle and many smaller ones

- Begin by lighting a candle and praying
'Holy God as we light this candle help us to remember that you are always with us.'
- Pray the sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ko te Tohu o te Rīpeka

Ki te ingoa o te Matua, o te Tamaiti,
O te Wairua Tapu. Āmene.

Leader: We begin with a verse from scripture.

Reader: *Leviticus chapter 11 verse 45*

For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God; you shall
therefore be holy, for I am holy."

(pause for a minute)

Leader: We are all called to be holy and to live holy lives, for the good of others and
ourselves.

Reader 2: 1st Corinthians Chapter 6 verse 19

'Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?...
For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.'

(pause for a minute)

Leader: The beatitudes in the gospel of Matthew offer us ways to live holy lives

Reader 2: Adapted from Matthew 5:3-12 (pause after each line – you may like to
give one line to each student)

Holy are the poor in spirit who trust always in God,
Holy are those who see Christ in times of difficulty and sadness
Holy are the humble who are grounded in a love of a simple life
Holy are those who hunger and thirst for justice and truth and encourage others to do the
same.
Holy are the merciful.
Holy are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
Holy are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Holy are those who stand up for what is right even when it is difficult.
Holy are those with a generous heart who work to build God's kingdom here on earth.

Reader 6: When we can recognise what holiness is, we can work together to support
each other to become more whole.

Leader: Sit quietly thinking about areas in your life where you notice holiness.

(After the appropriate time of silence 5-10min)

Leader: Join together to say the Prayer for Holiness

Breathe in me,
O Holy Spirit,
that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me,
O Holy Spirit,
that my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart,
O Holy Spirit,
that I love only what is holy.

Strengthen me,
O Holy Spirit,
to defend all that is holy.

Guard me so,
O Holy Spirit,
that I may always be holy.

Amen.

- End with the sign of the cross:

The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ko te Tohu o te Rīpeka

Ki te ingoa o te Matua, o te Tamaiti,
O te Wairua Tapu. Āmene.

Conclusion:

(10 min)

(Materials needed: Computer with song and sound system)

To complete the work shop revisit the images that you started this session with. Spend 2 minutes reorganising the groups into those people who are holy and those who are not. Reinforce that indeed we are all made in the image of God therefore we are ALL HOLY, we don't earn it but we can choose to reveal our holiness in the way we act, the things we say and the way we treat others and our earth.

Present each member a candle from the prayer session to remind them that they are asked to be the light of the world, and to share the light of Christ with others.

RESOURCES:

HOLINESS - TE TAPU WORKSHOP

LEARNING INTENTIONS:

We will explore
Te Tapu
Holiness
and how to
recognise it.

1

We will look at
how holiness
means becoming
more whole, more
fully human.

2

We will explore
how we can be
more holy in our
lives by answering
the universal call
to holiness.

3





**THROUGH US
GODS PRESENCE
GOES OUT INTO
THE WORLD
BRINGING LIGHT,
HEALING AND
HOPE.**





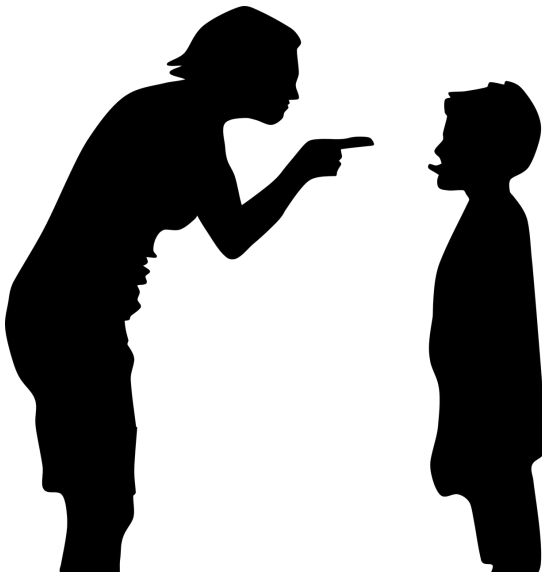
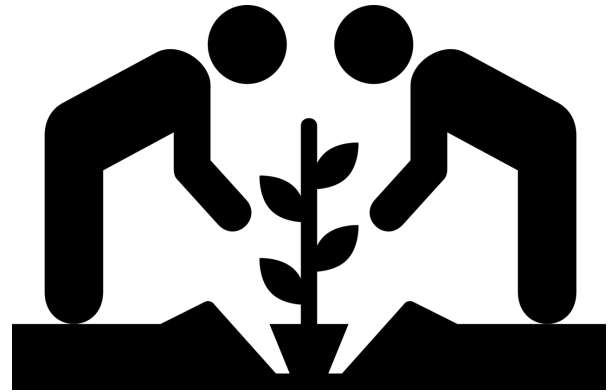
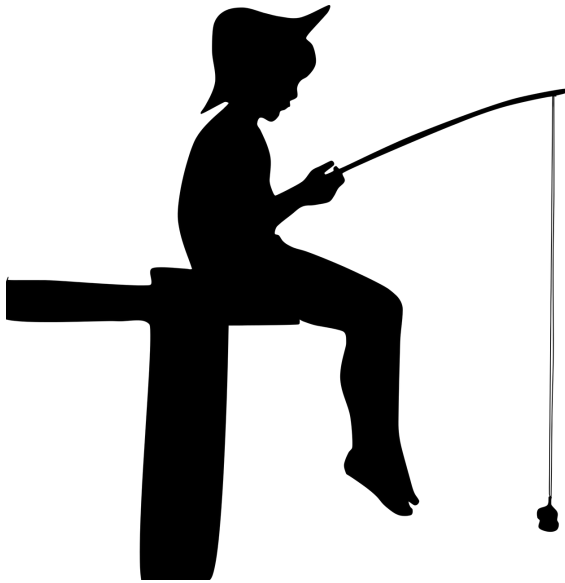
**Holiness
doesn't mean
doing
extra-ordinary
things but
doing ordinary
things with
love and faith.**

#POPE FRANCIS



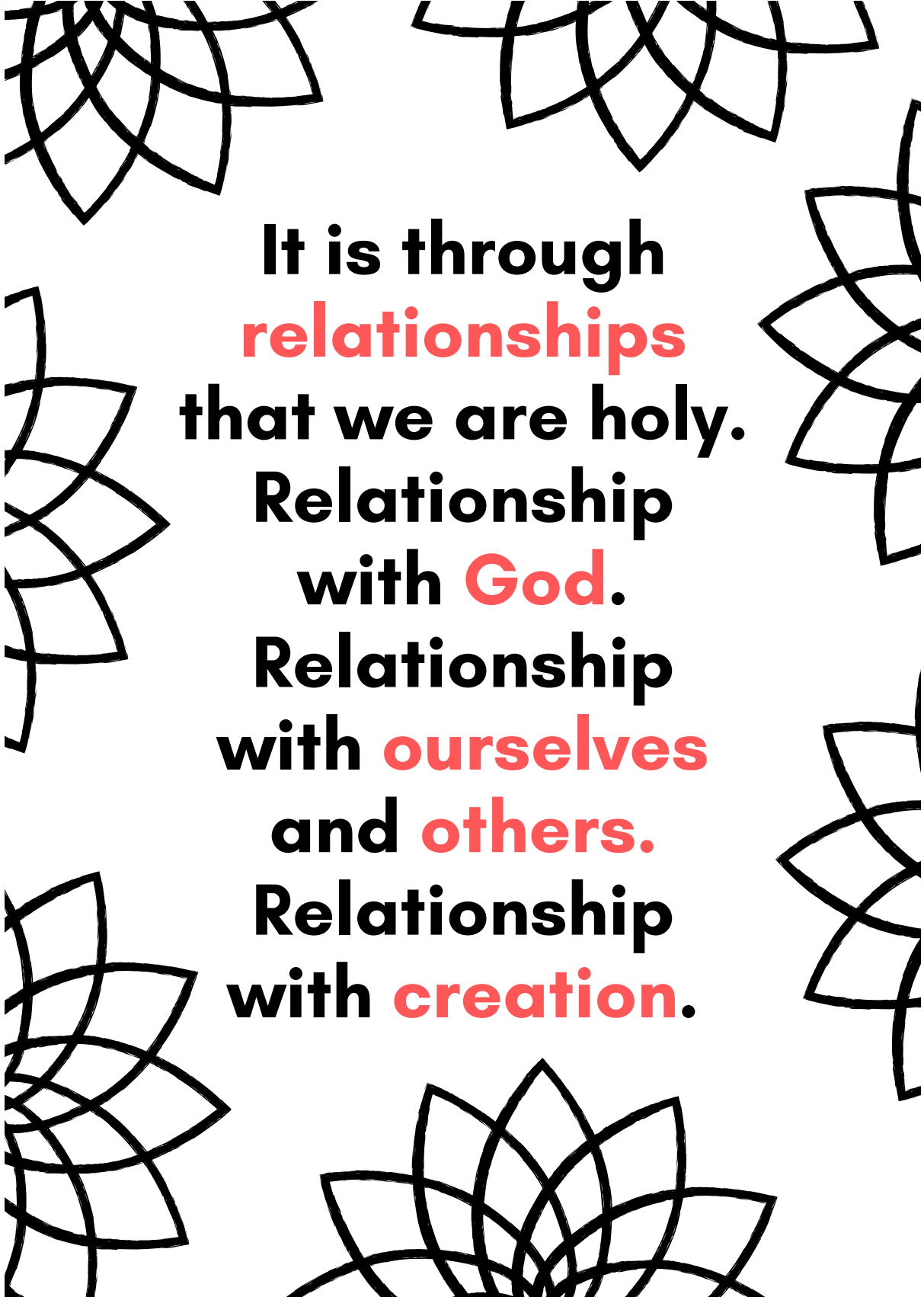






 <p>HUMBLE</p>	 <p>PASSIONATE</p>
 <p>GENUINE</p>	 <p>LOVING</p>
 <p>WARM</p>	 <p>HONEST</p>
 <p>FORGIVING</p>	 <p>USES GIFTS FOR OTHERS</p>
 <p>FUN</p>	 <p>HARD WORKING</p>





**It is through
relationships
that we are holy.
Relationship
with **God**.
Relationship
with **ourselves**
and **others**.
Relationship
with **creation**.**



We are called to
be holy by living
our lives with love
and by bearing
witness in
everything we do,
wherever we find
ourselves.
Let everything be
open to GOD!

Pope Francis

Definitions:

**Holiness is
responding
to God by
living a life
in truth,
love and
justice.**

#Holiness



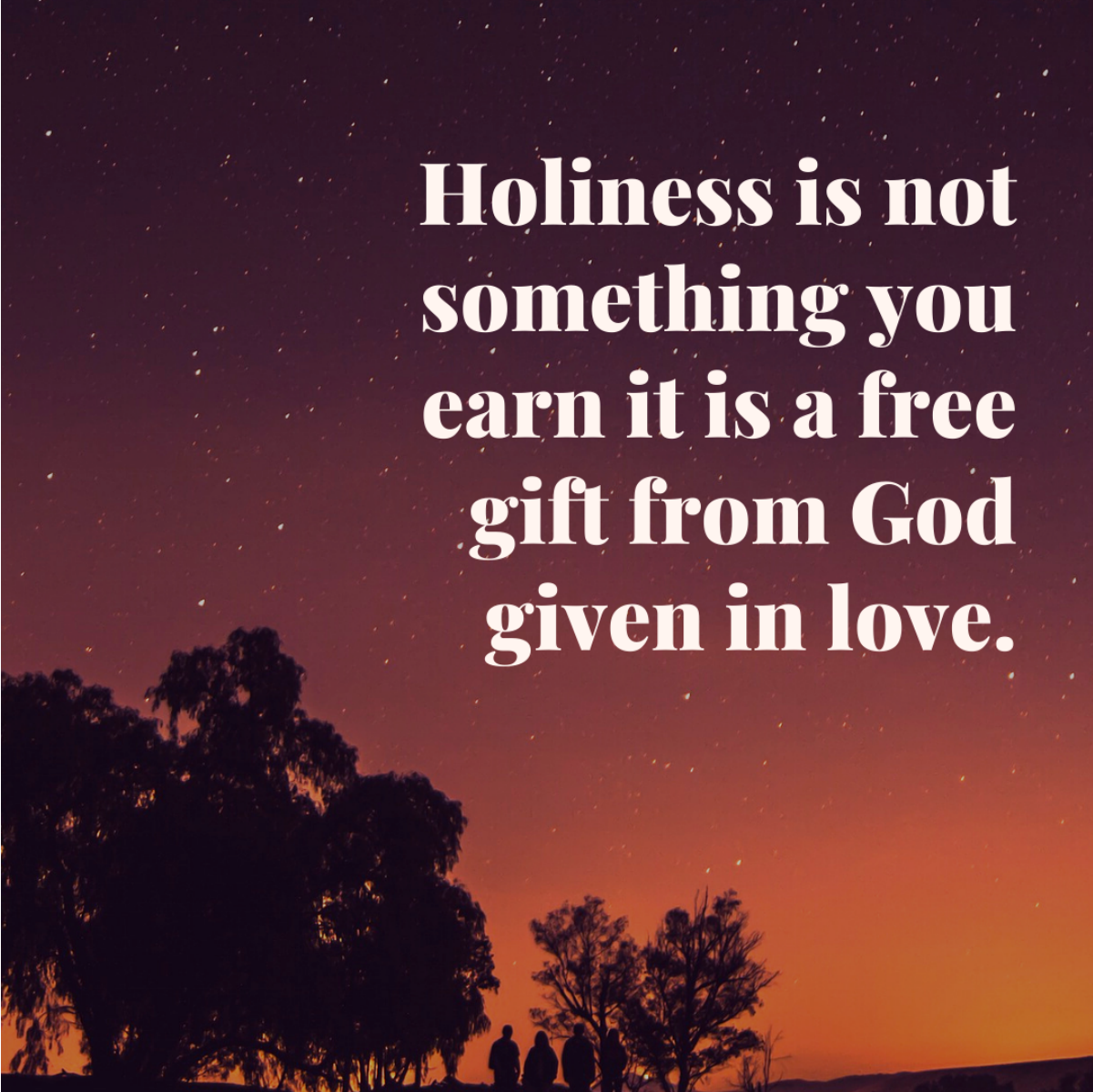


Holiness is the work of
the Spirit.

It is part of who we all
are it leads us to action.



#holiness


A night sky with a starry background and a silhouette of trees and people in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Holiness is not
something you
earn it is a free
gift from God
given in love.**

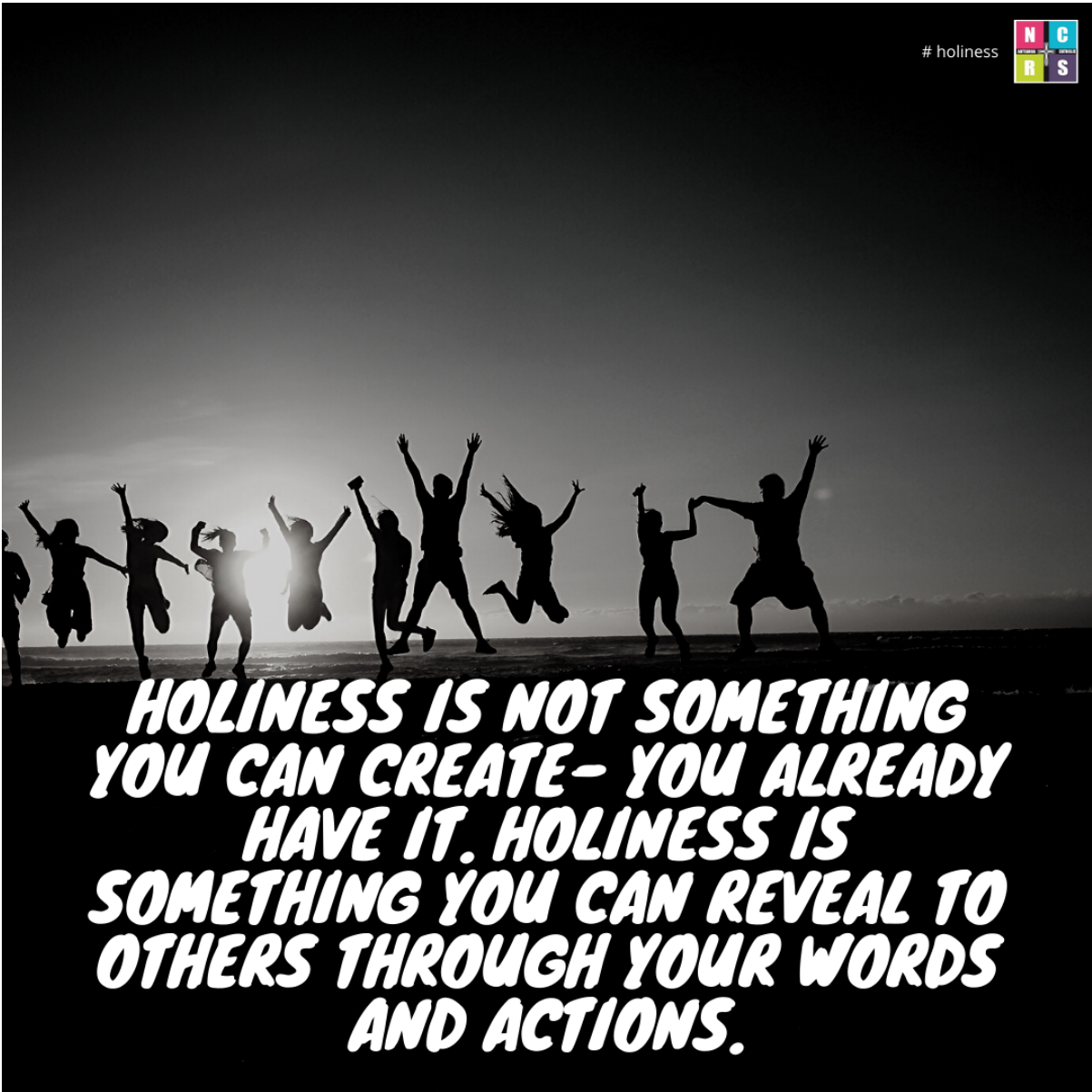
HOLINESS IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR CHRISTIAN IDENTITY.



#holiness



HOLINESS IS ABOUT
BECOMING WHOLE,
CONNECTED AND
INCLUSIVE.



**HOLINESS IS NOT SOMETHING
YOU CAN CREATE- YOU ALREADY
HAVE IT. HOLINESS IS
SOMETHING YOU CAN REVEAL TO
OTHERS THROUGH YOUR WORDS
AND ACTIONS.**