



THEREFORE

A BIBLE STUDY ON EPHESIANS 4:1-6

BY: REV. STEVE MANSKAR

FRAGMENT 3: WE ARE NOT 'HOLY SOLITARIES'

We make our baptismal vows in community. The Christian life is relational. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, said, "Holy solitaires' is a phrase no more consistent with the Gospel than holy adulterer. The Gospel of Christ knows no religion but social; no holiness, but social holiness." To address this need to live out one's faith in relationship, Wesley made sure every Methodist was placed in a small group, called a class.

FOLLOW ALONG:

Watch the third fragment of Steve Manskar's Bible study and fill in the _____.

The Christian life is necessarily _____ and _____

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:



1. In what areas of your life are you tempted to be a "holy solitary?"



2. What does the phrase "social holiness" mean to you? What are some new or unexpected ways you would like to live a more social religion?



3. Class meetings were about accountability and growing together as members asked one another, "how is it with your soul?" In what ways could your church grow or strengthen its small group ministries?

STRETCH IN THE SPIRIT:

Do research on Methodist class meetings. Take a field trip to the historic Strawbridge Shrine in New Windsor, to visit the Evans House, where the first class meeting in America was held. What lessons from our history inform our faith today?