

4. In the study Jim said that godliness starts with centering our lives on Christ and that filters out into actions. Let's read 1 Corinthians 10:31, 10:33, and then Romans 12:1. If you got better at applying these verses in your life, what are some specific things that would happen?

5. In 1 Corinthians we've looked at two very basic principles. You may need the group for this but let's give it a try. We've formed a new mission statement at Chapel City Church. Write it down here:

How do the two principles line up with that statement?

What does this say about the essence of godliness? Has this changed anything in your basic approach to godliness in your own life? If so, how?

Prayer Requests:

## MYSTERIOUS SIMPLICITY

1 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5

Truth is found in simplicity, and not in the multiplicity and confusion of things.

Isaac Newton

The mysterious simplicity of godliness (3:16)

Paul viewed the church as God's family, the pillar and foundation of truth.

The source of godliness in our lives is centered on Jesus.

Godliness complicated by deception (3:16)

Rules for rules' sake isn't just a bad idea, it's abandoning the faith.

What demons teach sometimes doesn't sound that bad ...

Sometimes it actually looks good.

### The siren song of some false teachers

They mistook miser for godliness

They mistook denial for devotion

### A return to simplicity

God's creation is made for our blessing and enjoyment

God created things to be accepted; not rejected

God created things to be used; not abused

God's hand in blessing is recognized by prayer

Godliness is not a function of how much we accept or deny, it is a function of our transformed hearts to glorify God through Jesus Christ (1 Cor 10:31, 33)

If you grew up in church as a child, describe your church. Think a little about size, the friendliness, the rules, and the attitude toward those who broke the rules.

### Digging deeper

1. Read 1 Timothy 3:15. What are the first things that pop into your mind when you read "how people ought to conduct themselves in the household of God"?
2. What does it mean to you that the church is the pillar and foundation of the truth?
3. Read 1 Timothy 4:1 and then verse 3. Paul identifies the teaching of demons with things that are of great sacrifice and personal denial. Do most people think that demons would teach sacrifice and denial? Hard thought question: Why would demons be interested in teaching things for which people would need great discipline and self-control?