

Tonight we start digging in to what CLEAN means and what it brings.

The high altitude view of CLEAN is 1 Peter 1:16 when God says “You shall be holy, for I am holy”

That’s pretty simple right?...as followers of Christ we are to BE HOLY....the word we’re using is CLEAN.  
it means pure, set apart, different, godly. It means CLEAN.

So for the next few weeks we want to be broad...high altitude

What does that mean? I’ll show you.

**Recognize this place?** This is **Carrollton (HIGH Altitude)** Think of this as our whole year.

This is Carrollton in a way we don’t typically see it...from way up...can’t really recognize much.  
But we know it’s Carrollton.

Think about our year....CLEAN...We’re seeking to BE CLEAN, LIVE CLEAN and BRING CLEAN.

That’s the high altitude hope.

And I think a good statement or tagline is this: CLEAN: A life that glorifies God.

I think a Clean life does that...it doesn’t mean it’s perfect...but it’s seeking it daily.

So broadly our hope is to live a life that glorifies God.....BE CLEAN-LIVE CLEAN-BRING CLEAN

But we also begin to zoom in on some places.....What does that even mean?

We saw the high altitude of Carrollton but we can zoom in and see specific parts of it too right?

We zoom in on the picture a bit and Check this out....**this is the square at Carrollton** –

This doesn’t represent all of Carrollton but it’s definitely a part of it right? It’s a specific part of it.

So each month we zoom in on a specific part of CLEAN, like tonight...we look at **BE CLEAN**

But even the square, located in Carrollton, has it’s detailed things right? (**SHOW PIC**)

So each month we zoom in on a specific part of CLEAN and then zoom in even more.

It’s just like biology lab....you look at the entire cell, and then you get a microscope and look deeper.

But the highest view we have of CLEAN is 1 Peter 1:16 (You shall be holy, for I am holy)

That’s the calling, the standard, the expectation for our life in Christ – **CLEAN. A life that glorifies God**

TONIGHT specifically we look at the first step of CLEAN which is BE CLEAN. We zoom in a bit.

**I don’t think we dislike being Clean** –

I think we dislike the process of being Cleaned and then even remaining clean

**Think about it....some of you are still like this...**

I remember being a kid and my mom having to make me get in the bath or brush my teeth.

I wanted to be clean and not deal with the consequences of not being clean....zits, sickness....

I wanted white, healthy teeth, I didn’t want cavities and stuff, I just didn’t want to get up and  
actually brush my teeth...so many times I’d go fake it. you did/do to

I wanted the benefits of being clean but didn’t want the work that came with it.

**I think that’s our biggest struggle....the work. We want results without sacrifice.**

We’ll see next week that we’re called to LIVE CLEAN – there is responsibility there.

BUT The big thing about tonight **{BE CLEAN}** is the fact that we only bring dirt to this process.

What? with our very best effort we fall miserably short in gaining what we need for salvation and life.

There is nothing we can do about our greatest need of BEING CLEANED.

**HERE’S THE BOTTOM LINE:**

**the only responsibility you have in being CLEAN is to come to the Father.**

That’s it. You come to Him. Trust Him, He cleans, he sets apart for His work....

Yes....later He asks you to do things....but for now...in the beginning...in the midst of sin...

His plea is simple.....”Come to me” He does all the work...we by faith....go to Him....through Christ

In that moment He Cleans. LIFE BEGINS.

**But this cleaning is something God continues to do in our life - Look at Psalm 51**

this is a gut wrenching chapter in which a man of God is crying out to God to be CLEANED.

He’s a man of God who has committed a sin and is now at the breaking point.

He goes to the only place He can...God.

Some of you are there and you're trying to fix it....you think you can clean...you think you can bring to the equation what only God can bring.

some of you are realizing you can't fix it...some are fighting it....

But David here in psalm 51 goes to the only who can make Him CLEAN.

God is the only one who offer Salvation. Only through Christ can we be saved....Cleaned.

But in the midst of sin...as His child...our only hope for restoration, forgiveness is also Him.

We think once we have Him we have the power to remove our sins....

**As we look at Psalm 51 you see all the responsibility being on God.**

the one responsibility of David here is that He comes to the only one who can truly clean him.

Do you see that? Let's just read the entire thing man.

It's pretty evident that we see who it is that's doing the work.....GOD.

So when we say BE CLEAN – we're really saying...COME TO THE FATHER, Through Christ.

That's the high altitude viewing....**We BE CLEAN by coming to the Father.**

and we come to the Father through Jesus.

What does this do? What happens when God cleans?

1. **He brings dead things to life.** he brings us, a dead people to life.

2. **He blots out sins (v.9)** He forgives, forgets...remembers no more your wrongs.

A lot of people never come to Christ because they think they're too bad....LISTEN TO ME....no one is too far from this Father's reach. Know that....trust that...believe into that.

3. **He renews us (v.10)** What sin causes to be dirty...the Father steps in and renews...cleans. He does this

There are things in our lives that do not belong...much like David here....you/we need to go to the Father and BE CLEANED...to be renewed.

To Be CLEAN is not just salvation....it's also the forgiveness we all constantly stand in need of daily.

**At the end of the day God desires this....verse 17.**

A heart that sees the need for the love and grace of God.

The heart that daily sees their only hope as Him.

**CLEAN ultimately finds it's hope in Jesus.**

IF CLEAN ultimately means a life that glorifies God....there is no hope of that for us outside of Jesus.

Simple Question – Are you following Christ?....right now?....today, are you?

You're not too bad, too far way. The love of the Father is here. All you need to do is Come to Him.

So as we start to think about Clean we can't go one step without first asking the question....are you

CLEAN? And then understand this is possible through Christ. **Are you following Christ?**

**The only responsibility in coming clean...being cleaned...is to come to the Father.**

are there responsibilities and callings and challenges? YES....but in coming Clean Being Clean, it's really simple.....Come to the Father...empty handed, full of faith...and cast all you are on all He is.