



Core Truth: God calls our whole self to holiness.

Jackie Hill-Perry tells her story of coming out of a godless lifestyle, including a lesbian relationship. God saved her whole self, not just the sexually compromised parts, and brought her to a place of surrender. Her story encourages followers of Jesus to give their whole lives to holiness, trusting God can turn any sinful bent to glorious surrender.

Prompt: Gender issues and confusion abound among today's teens. The topic is not ignored, but in many ways flaunted in public schools and social media. Ask students to share how the conversation comes up. Ask them how the idea of purity or holiness would be discussed among their peers. Use this as a lead into Jackie's testimony. Cue them into the notion that holiness, not sexuality is our identity.

Play: Video of Jackie Hill-Perry, "Called to Holiness"

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Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- « **What did Jackie learn about sexuality from struggles in her childhood?**
- « Jackie contrasted her believing Aunt from her unbelieving mother. Her singing and forgiving made her stand out. **Who in your life stands out for their Christ-like attitude?**
- « As she started to express her lesbian lifestyle, Jackie said, "In this phase, Christians looked past me." **What were the three possible reasons she supposed they responded this way? When you see people who express their sexuality and gender differently, how do you respond?**
- « The turning point for Jackie was when God said to her, "The girl you are with will be the death of you." She clarified: It was not her *lesbianism* lifestyle, but her lifestyle, period. **What is the difference? Why do we treat sexual (especially homosexual) sin in isolation from other sin?**
- « Jackie stated, "The problem is I asked God to save me from one thing, not to save all of me." **How does this idea intersect with the biblical concepts of salvation and sanctification?**
- « "When you preach Jesus, he's not calling us to heterosexuality," Jackie said. "He's calling us to holiness. Heterosexuality is not the goal; holiness is." **Where is holiness lacking in your life?**
- « Jackie warned against confusing sin and temptation. "Temptation does not define our identity." **Why was she so strong on this clarification?**
- « **Read** 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18-20; 10:31. **What confidence do we have in facing temptation?**
- « **Read** Colossians 1:16. **How does Jackie relate this verse to our bodies and holiness?**
- « **What aspects of your life and body do you need to surrender to God's holiness?**

Pray: After having many of the students share a place they can stand up, speak out, and make a difference, invite several youth or leaders pray that "God might do exceedingly abundantly beyond all we ask or think, according the power that works within us" (Ephesians 3:20).