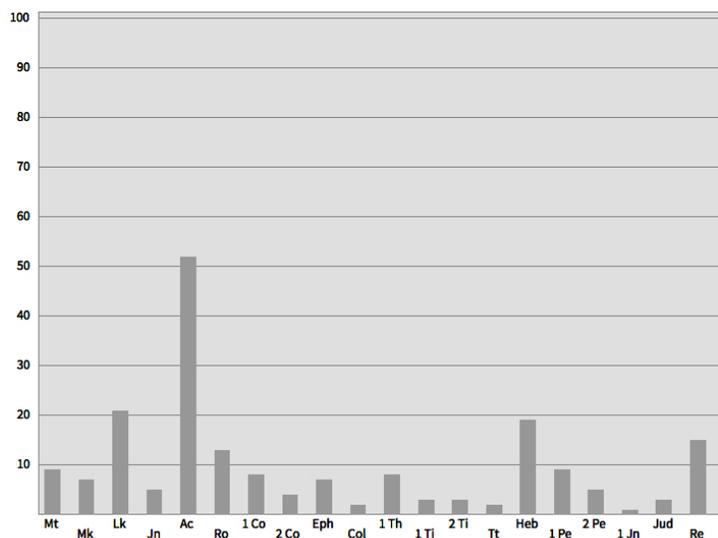
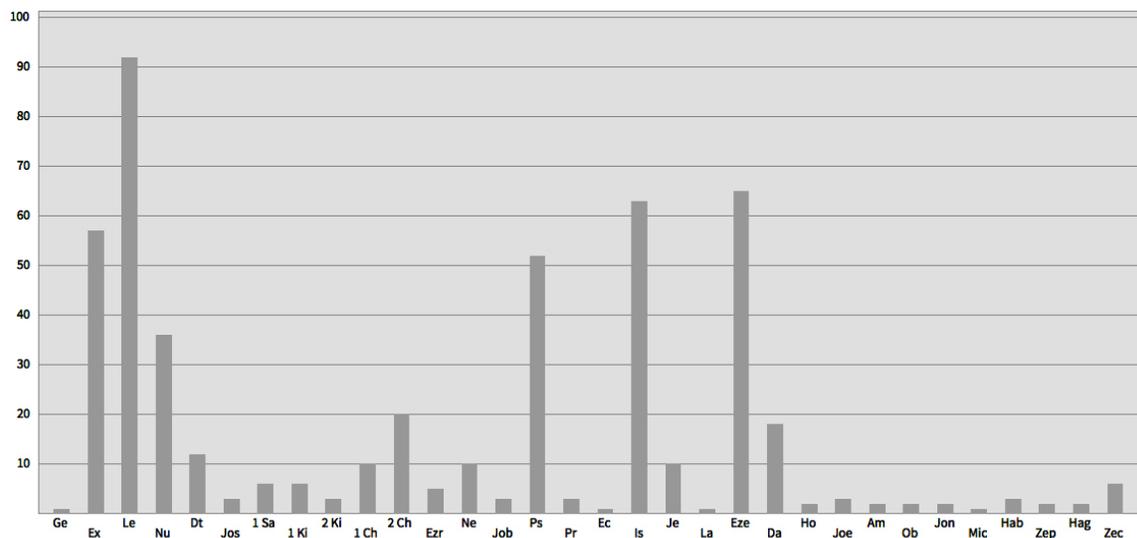


HOLINESS: GRACE-DRIVEN SANCTIFICATION

“I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I want to be, I am not what I hope to be in another world; but still I am not what I once used to be, and by the grace of God I am what I am”

– John Newton

- Justification
- Sanctification
 - Holiness (ἁγιος, ἁγιος) verbs toward God - separation & brightness
 - Sin – verbs away from God



HE GRACIOUSLY DRAWS NEAR TO OUR HOLINESS

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

HE GRACIOUSLY DOES THE WORK OF OUR HOLINESS

Ezekiel 36:22

“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came.²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules... ³⁶Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the LORD; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.

- *Augustine, “Command what you will, will what you command.”*

HE GRACIOUSLY DOESN'T STOP PURSUING OUR HOLINESS

Hebrews 12:5-8

5And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by him.

6For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”

7It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

As the Spirit pursues your holiness today...

What one thing would be the first to burn up in the refining fire to look more like Jesus?

We should never expect the holiness of our church to exceed the holiness of our leaders.

As shepherds we can't lead people to healthy pastures if we've never been there ourselves.