

SANCTIFICATION

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification”

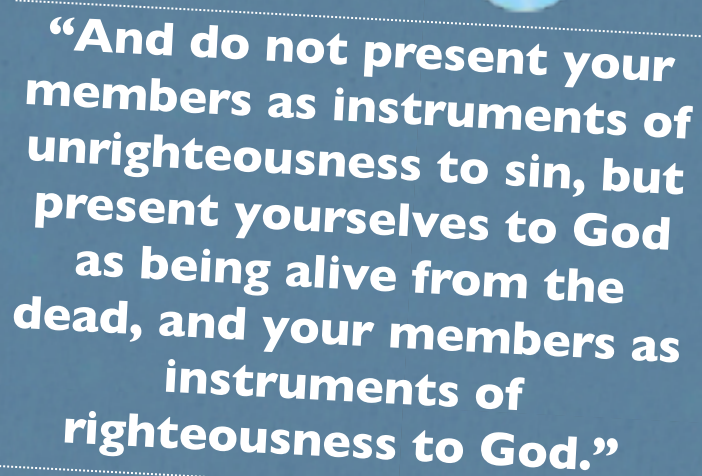
1 Thessalonians 4:3

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Sanctification is the same Greek word as holiness: “hagios,” meaning a separation. God wants us to be holy, set apart, unto Him. 1 Thessalonians 4:3 states, “For this is the will of God, your sanctification.” What does God want for us? He wants us to be set apart from the world and transformed into the likeness of His Son. This sounds like a daunting task, and it is. But the task is not ours; it is God’s. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, a change takes place. We are forgiven of our sins, and we become a new creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17 states, “if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.” The person that you used to be, the slave that you were to your sin, that person no longer exists. You are now a freeman.

Romans chapter 6 is a beautiful chapter that declares our freedom in Christ. In verse 12 it exhorts us as freemen not to allow sin to reign over us. This can be a very difficult thing to do, but as we spend time with God in prayer and through His Word, our desires change. Romans 12:2 states, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” The more time we spend with God, the more our minds are renewed. We will find ourselves seeing things the way that God sees them, not the way that the world around us sees them.

God has not left us alone in this transformation process. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes and dwells in us. Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as the Helper who will teach us all things and bring to our remembrance all that Jesus has spoken to us (see John 14). Titus 3:4-7 states, “But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” The Holy Spirit renews us! God desires our sanctification, and as we stay surrendered to Him, He will do the work in us through His Holy Spirit.



“And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”

Romans 6:13

Sanctification Bible Study

READ AND WRITE OUT ROMANS 6, PERSONALIZING IT.
(CHANGE THE YOU'S TO ME'S, ETC.)

READ ROMANS 8

According to verse 5, how do we live according to the Spirit?

What do you think about throughout the day?

What are practical things that you can do to help yourself, establish your mind on things of the Spirit?

Sanctification Bible Study

READ GALATIANS 5:15-25

How do we deny the lusts of the flesh?

What are the works of the flesh?

What is the fruit of the Spirit?

Is this fruit evident in your life?

How do we produce this fruit? (See John 15:1-13)

READ EPHESIANS 6:10-20

Why do we need to put on the armor of God?

What is the armor of God?