

What is Sanctification? Lesson 1 – Stages of Sanctification

Introduction:

- God has ordained an _____ for the steps in salvation.
 - Election (God’s plan before creation)
 - The Gospel call (The proclamation of the Gospel)
 - Regeneration (Being born again)
 - Conversion (Faith and repentance)
 - Justification (God declaring us righteous)
 - Adoption (Membership in God’s family)
 - Sanctification (The life-long process of purification)
 - Perseverance (Remaining a Christian)
 - Death (Going to be with the Lord)
 - Glorification (Receiving a resurrection body)
- Each of those first six steps relate to the very _____ of our Christian lives.
- We’re going to study about what God does in our lives _____ we become a Christian.

1. Sanctification is the _____ of becoming increasingly purified from sin and more like Christ in our daily life.

A. Justification a legal act of God that occurs in an _____, and by which God considers all of our sins forgiven, and declares us righteous in His sight.

- Justification relates to our _____ before God.
- Sanctification relates to our _____ before God.

B. Sanctification is a _____ work of God that continues throughout our Christian lives.

- Sanctification is God’s work of _____ us over our entire lives to be more and more like Jesus.
- Both God and man must work _____ in the process of sanctification.
- God saves us by His grace, and then gives us grace to _____ His will.

Phil 2.12–13 *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

2. There are three basic _____ of sanctification.

A. Sanctification _____ the moment we are born again in Christ.

Titus 3.5 *he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the **washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.***

1 Cor 6.11 *And such were some of you. **But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.***

Acts 20.32 *And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance **among all those who are sanctified.***

- Because of this spiritual washing, we have been released from the _____ of sin.

Rom 6.18 *...and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.*

Rom 6.11 *So you must also consider yourselves **dead to sin** and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

- Since we are dead to sin and free from it's power, we should no longer allow sin to _____ us.

Romans 6.12 *Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey its passions.*

1 John 3.9 *No one born of God, makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and **he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God.***

Rom 6.14 *For **sin will have no dominion over you**, since you are not under law but under grace.*

- The act of _____ our sins is part of the process of sanctification.

Gal 5.16 *But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are **against** the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are **against** the flesh, for these are **opposed to one another.***

Rom 7.22–23 *For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law **waging war** against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.*

- _____ that God has already set us free from the bondage of sin is one of the weapons we must use to conquer sin.

Rom 6.11 *So you also must **consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.***

Rom 6.17-18 *But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been **set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.***

- Through sanctification, our _____ are changed by the Holy Spirit.

Rom 7.22 *For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,*

- Sanctification is a work of God's _____ in our lives, not merely our own strength.

Phil 2.13 *for it is **God who works in you**, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

B. After we are saved, sanctification _____ to take place for the remainder of our earthly lives.

- It is important that we understand that even though we are saved, our sinful nature still _____ in us.

Rom 7.22–23 *For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law **waging war** against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.*

- When we were born again, God forgave us of all our sins and washed us clean, but we still _____ new sins that must be purified.

1 John 1.8–9 *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Rom 6.19 *For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, **so now present yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.***

- Gradually, we are becoming more and more like _____ as we obey God's Word.

Rom 8.29a For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed to the image of his Son,**

2 Cor 3.18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.** For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Phil 3.12 Brothers, **not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on** to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Phil 3.13-14 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

- All of the moral _____ and exhortations and examples in Scripture were written for our sanctification.

1 Cor 10.11 Now these things happened to them as an example, but **they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.**

Eph 4.13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, **to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,**

C. Our sanctification is completed at our _____.

- Once we die and go to be with the Lord, our sanctification will be _____.

Heb 12.23 ...and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, **and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect.**

- Sanctification is not just for our spirits, but for our _____ person.

2 Cor 7.1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every **defilement of the body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.**

1 Thess 5.23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may **your whole spirit and soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Phil 3.21 ...**who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.**

- The promise of being made perfect in Heaven should not make us lazy in our sanctification, but _____ to live more and more holy.

1 John 3.2–3 *2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.*

- Sometimes our sanctification can stop and we can go _____ spiritually.

Rev 2.4–5a *But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.*

Jer 14.7 *Though our iniquities testify against us, act, O LORD, for your name's sake; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against you.*

3. Our sanctification is _____ in this lifetime.

A. God's holiness is the _____ of moral perfection to which we are held accountable.

Matt 5.48 *You therefore must be perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

B. As Christians, we have been set free from the power of sin, but God does not remove our sinful _____ until we reach Heaven.

Rom 7.22–23 *For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.*

C. Until we reach Heaven, we desperately need God's _____ to battle our remaining sin and grow in greater sanctification.

2 Cor 7.1 *Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.*

D. The Scriptures clearly teach that Christians will not be perfect in this life, and will _____ with sin until death.

James 3.2 *For we all stumble in many ways.*

1 John 1.8-9 *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Rom 6.12-13 *Let not sin therefore **reign** in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 13 **Do not present your members to sin** as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.*

Matt 6.11-12 *Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

4. Since our sanctification will never be completed in this life, we must be

_____.

A. Just because our sanctification will never be completed on earth does not mean we should not _____ for it.

B. Just because we will never be perfect, we should not become _____.

C. Our sanctification should always be _____ in our lives until we die.

D. _____ in sanctification is evidence that Christ is in you!

2 Pet 3:17-18 *You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, **take care** that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. 18 **But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.***