

***Sanctification***  
**August 12, 2012**

Main Point:

Strive for increasing holiness in your life for the glory of God, out of love for your Savior, and in pursuit of your own joy.

1. As a believer in Christ, you have been set free from the dominion of sin, but you are in a lifelong battle with sin.
2. Sanctification is the work of the Holy Spirit, conforming you to the image of God.
3. Sanctification requires discipline in the means of grace.
4. Sanctification requires discipline in putting sin to death and putting on righteousness.
5. Strive for increasing holiness in your life for the glory of God, out of love for your Savior, and in pursuit of your own joy.

**Romans 6:2-4, 18** <sup>2</sup> ... How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life ... <sup>18</sup> And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. (NKJV)

**Galatians 5:17** <sup>17</sup> 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 each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (ESV)

**Romans 7:19** <sup>19</sup> For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice. (NKJV)

**WSC 35** What is sanctification? A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

**Louis Berkhof's definition:** Sanctification is that gracious and continuous operation of the Holy Spirit, by which He delivers the justified sinner from the pollution of sin, renews his whole nature in the image of God, and enables him to perform good works.

**Romans 8:29** <sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son ... (NKJV)

**2 Corinthians 3:18** <sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. (NKJV)

**Philippians 2:12-13** <sup>12</sup> ... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. (NKJV)

**Louis Berkhof** "Though man is privileged to co-operate with the Spirit of God, he can do this only in virtue of the strength which the Spirit imparts to him from day to day. The spiritual development of man is not a human achievement, but a work of divine grace."

**John Murray** "If we are not keenly sensitive to our own helplessness, then we can make the use of the means of sanctification the minister of self-righteousness and pride and thus defeat the end of sanctification. We must rely not upon the means of sanctification but upon the God of all grace."

**Jay Adams** "You may have sought and tried to obtain *instant* godliness ... The trouble is, godliness doesn't come that way."

**1 Timothy 4:7** <sup>7</sup> But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. (NKJV)

**Jerry Bridges** "Discipline is structured training ... We must correct, mold, and train our moral character."

**Jerry Bridges** "To meditate on the Scriptures is to think about them, turning them over in our minds, and applying them to our life's situation."

**Colossians 3:5, 12** <sup>5</sup> Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry ... <sup>12</sup> Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering ... (NKJV)

**Jerry Bridges** "To put to death the misdeeds of the body ... is to destroy the strength and vitality of sin as it tries to reign in our bodies."

**Romans 6:19** <sup>19</sup> ... For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading to more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as* slaves of righteousness for holiness. (NKJV)

**Jerry Bridges** "Every sin we commit reinforces the habit of sinning and makes it easier to sin."

**Jerry Bridges** says, "The more we say no to sin, the more we are inclined to say no."

**Jerry Bridges** "This is the reason ... it is so important for us to develop habits of self-control over our physical appetites. We may think indulging these appetites isn't bad, but such indulgences weaken our wills in every other respect of our lives."

**Jay Adams** "It is by willing, prayerful and persistent obedience to the requirements of the Scriptures that godly patterns are developed and come to be a part of us."

**Philippians 1:9, 11** <sup>9</sup> And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment ... <sup>11</sup> being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (NKJV)

**John 14:21a** <sup>21</sup> "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me ... (NKJV)

**John 15:10-11** <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. (NKJV)

**John 15:8** <sup>8</sup> By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. (NKJV)

**John 15:10a** <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love ... (NKJV)