

SANCTIFIED FOR SERVICE

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding."

Ephesians 1:3-8 (NIV)

❖ The Three Stages of the Christian Life

"And some of you were (far from God). 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."

1 Corinthians 6:11 (NIV)

1. As believers in Jesus Christ we have been JUSTIFIED.

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 5:1 (NIV)

2. As a Christian we are being SANCTIFIED.

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)

3. At our death or the Second Coming of Christ we will be GLORIFIED.

"Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

1 John 3:2 (NIV)

❖ Understanding the Work of Sanctification

"Because by one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy."

Hebrews 10:14 (NIV)

1. Sanctification is a FINISHED ACTION by God.

"And by that (God's) will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Hebrews 10:10 (NIV)

2. Sanctification is a DAILY PROCESS by believers.

"Like newborn babies crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation."

1 Peter 2:2 (NIV)

3. Sanctification is a battle between our OLD NATURE and our NEW NATURE.

"Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin."

Romans 7:20-25 (NIV)

❖ Living out the Sanctified Life

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

1. Recognizing the power of the SPIRIT over the power of the LAW.

"Through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit that brings life made me free from the law that brings sin and death."

Romans 8:2 (NCV)

2. By faith we ask God to daily RENEW our MINDS.

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

3. By faith we practice the daily DISCIPLINES for SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

"Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness."

1 Timothy 4:7

4. By faith you choose to trust God in your daily CIRCUMSTANCES.

"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to endure. And endurance develops strength of character in us, and character strengthens our confident expectation of salvation. And this

expectation will not disappoint us. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."

Romans 5:3-5 (NLT)

5. By faith you begin to believe in God's ability to ACCOMPLISH His WILL in you.

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

- ❖ Sanctification is not accomplished by TRYING HARD but by TRUSTING HIM.

"Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)