

## *Mt. Lebanon Church.*

Sanctification

Bible Study

2.24.2021

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you have run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the bible study.

### 1 Corinthians 1: 26 – 31

Through salvation, we are redeemed by the blood of the lamb, saved from the sinfulness of this world and made righteous in the sight of God, we are now set apart or justified through Christ. Even though God cleanses us from our sinfulness, and we are justified in him, we still have within us the old nature that, from time to time we are still going to listen to. This means, that we are still going to make wrong choices in our life that are not pleasing unto God. So, although we are saved from sin, we still allow sin to have power over us. Gods desire is to save us from allowing that power of sin to control our lives, therefore he begins to sanctify us. This sanctification process will continue to take place during the rest of our life as a believer. Sanctification, as we will see is, Gods power within us, to say no to sin and yes to him.

Sanctification is Gods call unto us to put off the desires of the old self and seek after those things that he desires for us in our life. This process, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, works within our hearts, our minds, our body, and our soul, to grow in God's grace, and to conform to the instruction of the word of God. This means becoming more Christlike.

**1 Corinthians 1: 26 – 31,....**for you see your calling brethern....but of him ye are in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption....

Through salvation, when God looks at us, he sees Christ. The wisdom of Christ, and the righteousness of Christ. He does not see what we were, he accepts us on the condition of Christ. Our human wisdom means nothing, so Christ became our wisdom. Our sin nature had no righteousness, so Christ became our righteousness. We were unable to save ourselves, we are unable to sanctified ourselves. We are saved through Christ death and we are sanctified through his life.

**John 17: 19,....**and for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth....

When we are in Christ, God sees us through his Son. Therefore, we must submit to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit and allow Christ to live within us. We must live in total dependence upon him and in total obedience to his word, submitting unto him, in spirit and in truth. We must understand our faith and our place in Christ, and that we are to be a gift from God. It is God that has set us apart as his own special possession.

**Philippians 1: 6,....**being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ....

This sanctification process that starts with our salvation is an ongoing process that will be brought to full completion the day that Christ takes us to be with him in glory. God through Christ started the work in our life, he will continue the work throughout our life, and will complete his work in us at the end of our life.

**Romans 8: 30,....**moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called, and whom he called, them he justified, and whom he justified, them he also glorified....

As Christians, we see from this text, that even though God said that he will complete the good work that he has started in us, this does not mean that this is regardless of whatever we want to do in our life. In order, for this to happen, we must have confidence. Confidence in God, confidence in the salvation of Jesus Christ, confidence in the word of God, confidence to believe and to believe strongly. With this confidence comes the expectation of hope, and that is the hope of salvation, to all of those who will believe. We should always be confident for ourselves and for others to remain in the love of God, and know that this love is able to keep us from stumbling, until our day of reckoning.

God knows the decisions and the choices that we will make in our lives long before we do. God understands the secrets of our hearts and our prayers before that they are even formed in our minds.

**Romans 8: 26,....**the spirit helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the spirit itself maketh intercession for us....

Gods glorious transformation is accomplished in us through sanctification. Our continual sanctification takes place due to our faith, and by the working of the Holy Spirit, which is Gods pre determined will for us.

**Romans 6: 1 – 14,....**we have been united together in the likeness of his death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of his resurrection....therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body....do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin....for sin shall not have dominion over you....

Justification means that we are united in Christ. Sanctification means that we are united in his death, resurrection, and by him we are enabled to live in newness of life. Christ righteousness is the basis for our righteousness. The basis for our sanctification is, and always will be from the Lord.

**2 Thessalonians 2: 13 – 15,....**God from the beginning chose you for salvation by the spirit and belief in the truth....therefore brethren, stand fast....

It is not our will or determination that transforms us, it is the loving kindness of the Lord. Sanctification has nothing to do with what we do or what we can get out of what we do, but rather it is a joy that comes from obeying God and his word. It comes by the power of the Holy Spirit, as he transforms our hearts and minds so that we may delight in the will of Christ, to the glory of God.

**John 17: 6 – 19,....**sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth....

Sanctification is not about perfection, but persistence. Overcoming sinfulness is a lifelong endeavor. This is Gods work of setting believers apart from non believers. Our spiritual growth comes from the life that we live, by our faith, in Christ Jesus. It is the word of God that is necessary for us to understand our life in Christ. All the scriptures are necessary, and vital, for wisdom and knowledge. It is this essential truth that provides the foundation of our saving grace in Christ.

**Galatians 2: 20 – 21,....**I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me....I do not set aside the grace of God....

As we begin to understand our relationship with Christ, we begin to see the riches of his blessings that leads to our growth in his Godliness. There is no part of humanity that has not been affected by the sinfulness of this world. Even though it is a lifelong process, sanctification is good, it offers unto us numerous opportunities to rely upon God, believe upon his word, and walk consistently in his glory.

**Galatians 5: 16 – 17,....**walk in the spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh....the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary one to the other....

Our hearts desire should be to please God and to be obedient to God, but since the flesh is weak, we have this continual struggle within us. This is where we see the continual process of sanctification. Through this inward spiritual process, God brings about continual holiness and change through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit convicts us in the areas that need change, and helps us to grow in holiness. The goal of the Holy Spirit and progressive sanctification is to continue to eliminate sinfulness in our life, and to be holy as Christ is holy. We must remember that sin in our life will always affect our fellowship with God.

**Philippians 3: 12 – 14,....**this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark....

Sanctification is not sudden, and there are no short cuts to receive it. Progressive sanctification that the holy spirit brings about in our life is a great part of our Christian maturity. As we mature, we grow more sensitive to sin in our life. The closer we live to God, the more we see the need to repent and seek God's forgiveness. Sin will remain until death, therefore, spiritual perfection in this life is impossible. Our goal should be to strive to appear before God, without spot or blemish, even though we will not reach that goal until this body is laid to rest.

**1 John 2: 1 – 6**,....these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father....And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments....But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected....He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked....

Since sin does abide until death, through continual sanctification, Christ becomes an advocate for us because we are sinful believers. God's goal for us is, even though sin is present in our life we do not need to, nor should we let it dominate our lives. Sanctification is not about trying to be sinless to earn the favor of God. We pursue sanctification so that through it, God can continue to help us grow in holiness, and be blessed by him. Sanctification is recognizing that our redemption has been accomplished by Christ, and by him sanctification is being applied daily to our lives, by the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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