**Sanctification and Perseverance**

**February 22-23, 2017**

***Sanctification*** *is a progressive work of both God and man that makes Christians more and more free from sin and more and more like Christ in their actual lives. God and His children cooperate in this work, both playing distinct roles. -Grudem*

It is the Lord who sanctifies which brings us into closer relationship with him

Read

2 Corinthians 3: 17-18

1 Thessalonians 5: 19-14

2 Thessalonians 2: 13-14

What do these verses teach you about the Lord and how he works in us? How do these verses effect how you seek out sanctification? How can these verses effect how you will pray?

Even though we have been justified (know Jesus as our Savior) we still commit sins

Read

1 John 1: 5-10

Ecclesiastes 7:20

\*Romans 7: 13-19 *could also be discussed here (not included on reference sheet).*

What do these verses teach you about sin? What does it mean to walk in darkness, and what does it mean that the Lord is the light? How do you see your identity as you stand before God, as a sinner or as one justified and purified before him?

However, we must recognize that we have been set free from sin, and can walk in His ways.

Read

Romans 6: 11-18

John 8: 31-35

Colossians 3: 1-8

What does this mean to be set free from sin, to no longer be slaves to it? Do you see yourself in this way? Are you able to see a difference in your own life between the time before you knew Christ and now? Are there ways in which you feel you are still a slave to certain sins and cannot break free?

It is the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us from within, and transforms us into the likeness of the Lord

Read

Galatians 5: 16-25

Romans 8: 12-15

What does it mean to walk in the Spirit? How do you see your role and the Spirits role working together in sanctification? What does Galatians 5:25 mean to you, *to live by the Spirit and also keep in step with the Spirit*? What are the effects/consequences of receiving the Spirit and what do they mean to you (*some phrases used were: death to the deeds of the body brings* *life and adoption as sons)?*

We are to follow his commands and walk in the newness and freedom that we have which comes from Christ

Read

Colossians 1: 21-23

2 Peter 1: 5-11

Colossians 3: 12-17

What are we, as followers of Christ, supposed to do? Call out some of the specific commands. What are ones that you feel you do well in, what are others that you struggle in? What are the effects of when we walk in the commands or fall away from them? What are a few (one to three) commands you believe you can begin working on today?

Conclusion

What does sanctification mean to you now? In what ways do you believe you are growing in closer relationship with Christ now, how is he sanctifying you? What are some of the commands you read in the verses that you can work on as you go from here?

**Sanctification Scripture References (ESV)**

**2 Corinthians 3: 17-18**

17 Now the Lord[d] is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord,[e] are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.[f] For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

**1 Thessalonians 5:19-24**

Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not despise prophecies, 21 but test everything; hold fast what is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil.

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. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

**2 Thessalonians 2: 13-14**

13 But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits[d] to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**1 John 1: 5-10**

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 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. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**Ecclesiastes 7:20**

Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.

**Romans 6: 11-18**

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

12 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. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves,[c] you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 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.

**John 8: 31-35**

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” 33 They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave[b] to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

**Colossians 3: 1-8**

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your[a] life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you:[b] sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming.[c] 7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

**Galatians 5:16-25**

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 each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy,[d] drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do[e] such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

**Romans 8:12-15**

12 So then, brothers,[e] we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons[f] of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

**Colossians 1: 21-23**

21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation[g] under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

**2 Peter 1: 5-11**

5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue,[e] and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if these qualities[f] are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers,[g] be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

**Colossians 3: 12-17**

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.