

The Sanctifying Ministry of the Holy Spirit

John 17:17 (Jesus praying to His Father) Sanctify them <disciples> through thy truth: thy word is truth.

I. Introduction: Sanctification means *to set apart for a special purpose*. Consider a cemetery. What is it used for? Why do people go there? It is a special place set apart for us to visit the earthly remains of people who were important to someone. We don't go there to play tag or get a suntan. We go there because this place is set aside for remembrance. Outside a cemetery may be a freeway, a store, or houses, but inside is different. This is the concept of sanctification. (See QR code on reverse for image.)

II. The process of Sanctification: The Holy Spirit searches:
Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: ²⁴And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

1 Corinthians 2:10-11: But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

A. The Holy Spirit helps us as we study the Bible: "...the Spirit searches...the deep things of God" More on this in point IV

B. Our own spirit helps us understand ourselves: "...what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?"

C. The Holy Spirit helps us know God intimately: "...even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."

III. The process of Sanctification: The Holy Spirit Convicts:

John 16:8 And when he <the Holy Spirit> is come, he will reprove <convict> the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

A. Conviction leads to salvation - *repent from sin*

B. Conviction leads to pleasing God. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1 *walk & please God*

C. Conviction results in joy for the believer, condemnation for the unbeliever - *judgment*

2 Corinthians 7:9-10 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that **ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner**, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. ¹⁰For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but *the sorrow of the world worketh death*.

IV. The process of Sanctification: The Holy Spirit Teaches

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he will guide you into all truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and **he will shew you things to come**.

V. The process of Sanctification: The Holy Spirit reminds

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, **he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance**, whatsoever I have said unto you.

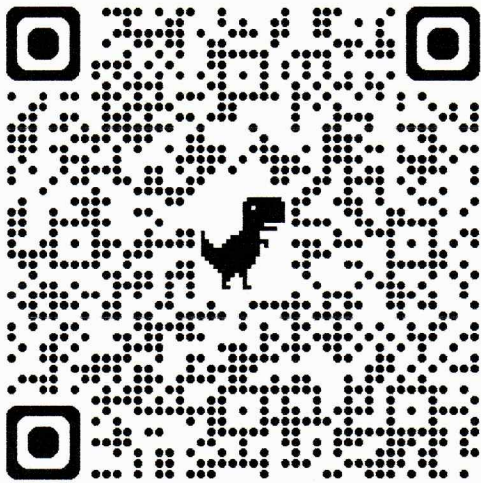
Questions:

- what is sanctification?
 - * declaring something holy
 - * to be purified
 - * learning to become free from sin
 - x example: detox from drug addiction (alcohol)
 - x Eph 4:28 Let him who stole, steal no more, but rather let him work with his hands

VI Conclusion: What does it mean for ME to be sanctified:

- A. Cemeteries have fences so people know when they're in a place that's set aside. We should have boundaries in our lives that set us apart from unbelievers.
- B. Only remains are allowed to reside in a cemetery. We should only allow godly things to remain in our lives. Read Romans 8:13 mortify works of the bad actions (Col 3:5)
- C. People can come to visit, but they cannot live in the cemetery. We need to live in a sin-cursed world, but we should not allow its ways to live in us.
- D. People die every day, and cemeteries are never full. We need to be renewed every day, and the Holy Spirit should show us how to be set apart for God's use as He prompts us. Read Colossians 3:9-10 put off the old man ("carnal nature"), with its works. Put on the new man.
- 2 Cor 5:17 in Christ, a new creature (creation)

Punchbowl Cemetery, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawai'i



- Gen 41:41-42 Pharaoh placed his signet ring on Joseph's hand, and made Joseph second in authority to rule Egypt
* signet ring rolled on wax to seal official government documents