

Session 9: Sanctification and Christian Ethics

(First Pause)

Read Philippians 2:12-13, Galatians 5:16-26, Romans 6:1-4, 6:10-14, and Micah 6:6-8

Sanctification is a progressive work of God and man that makes us more and more free from sin and like Christ in our actual lives.

- Wayne Grudem's definition of Sanctification, Systematic Theology, p.648

Does it worry or encourage you that we as believers play a part in our own sanctification?

Answers will vary

Is it encouraging to know that, in the end, our sanctification will be complete and we will be perfected? Does that knowledge affect how we live now?

We do not have to (nor can we) achieve perfection this side of glory

How can perfectionism, the extreme desire/need to be absolutely perfect, prove itself to be more of a hindrance than a help? Have you ever felt this in your life?

Perfectionism can lead to not even trying because you know you will ultimately fall short, or trying too hard under your own power causing stress and exhaustion (and still failure)

Insert these six words into the blanks below to create three complete sentences:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1) Sanctification | 2) Salvation | 3) Presence |
| 4) Power | 5) Penalty | 6) Glorification |

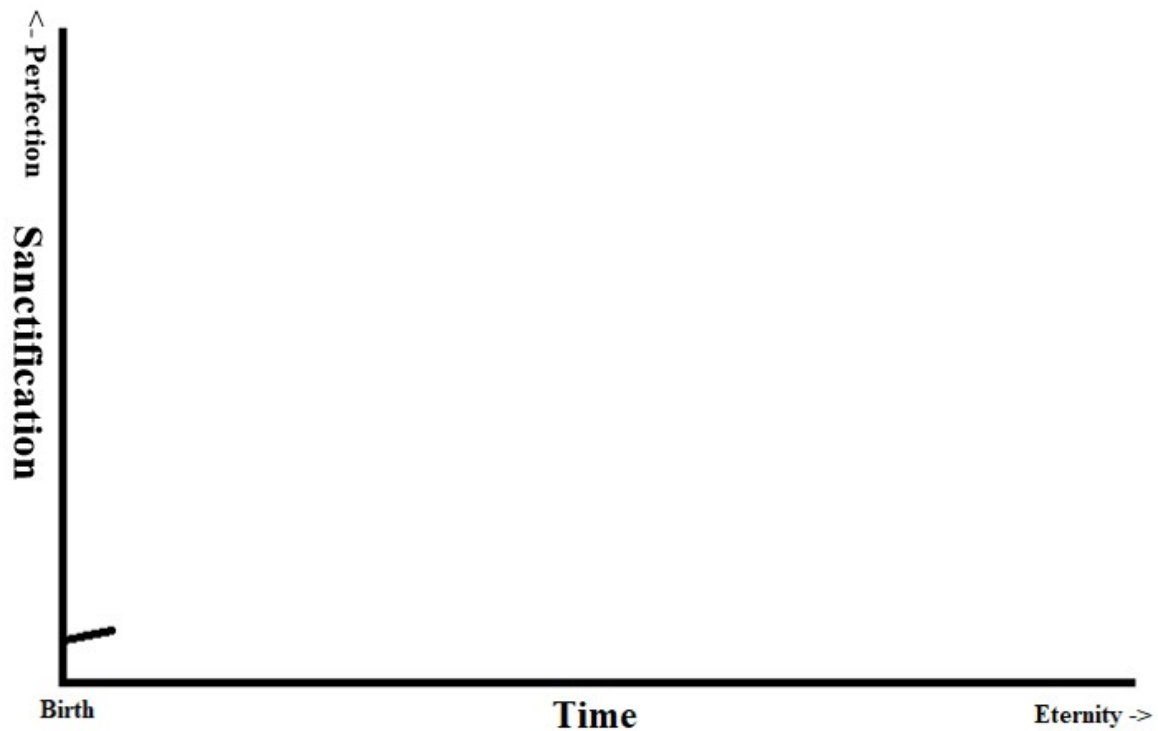
Being freed from the ____ of sin is ____!

Being freed from the penalty of sin is salvation!

Being freed from the power of sin is sanctification!

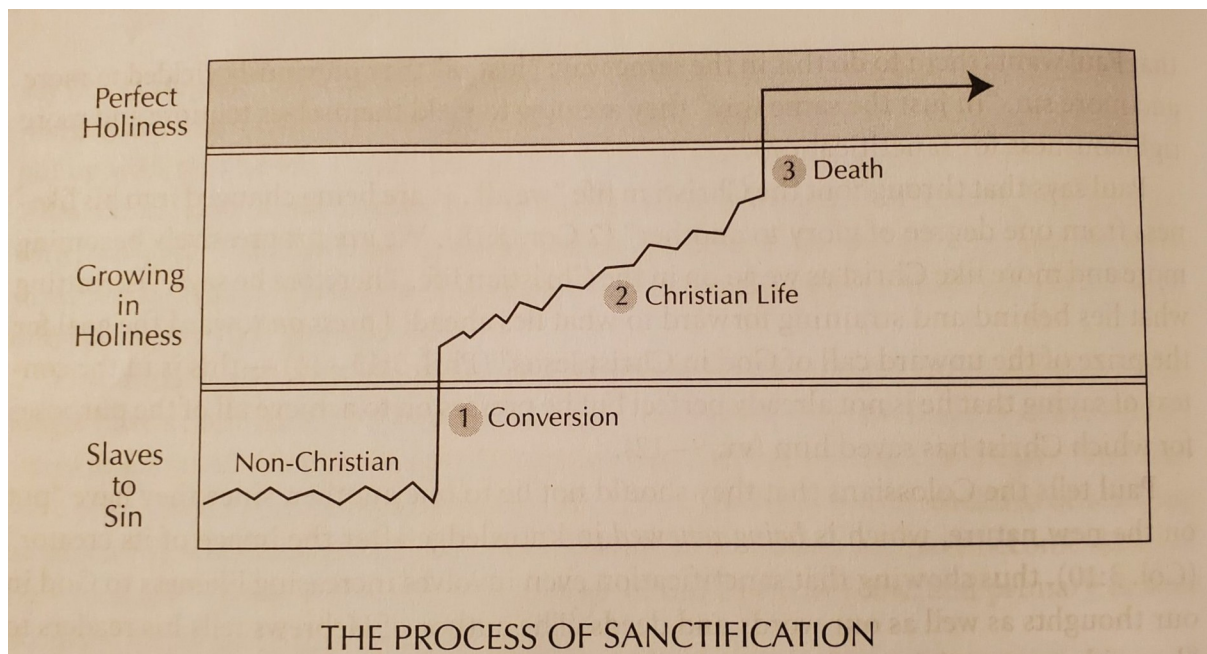
Being freed from the presence of sin is glorification!

Fill in the graph below showing what your sanctification looks like:



Plan of my Salvation

Example Graph from Wayne Grudem:



(Second Pause)

Read Psalm 1, Proverbs 3:11, Hebrews 12:1-2, Romans 14:23

Should the fact that all three members of the Trinity are actively involved in and causing our sanctification encourage us?

Yes – it shows that God is fully invested in us even past our salvation

What examples have you seen/experienced of the passive (shunning sin and relying on God) and/or active (striving to become better and more obedient) attitudes?

Answers will vary

How does being part of a group of believers help us in our Christian life, especially when it comes to trying to become more holy?

Being part of a Christian fellowship provides accountability, encouragement, council, examples, and good company.

Look over the lyrics of the hymn “Speak O Lord” and take notice of what God is asked to do, and what we as believers should do. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aH1Wn4fTiBs>

<p>1) Speak, O Lord, as we come to You To receive the food of Your Holy Word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness, That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All Your purposes for Your glory.</p> <p>2) Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility; Test our thoughts and our attitudes In the radiance of Your purity. Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority. Words of pow’r that can never fail— Let their truth prevail over unbelief.</p>	<p>3) Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us — Truths unchanged from the dawn of time That will echo down through eternity. And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises, And by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built And the earth is filled with Your glory.</p> <p>What we ask God to do</p> <p>What we should do</p>
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(Third Pause)

Take a brief moment to list some Christian Ethics you know and, if you know one, note down a scripture to back this up.

(Final Section)

Have you ever found it difficult to deal with other Christians who emphasise/display God’s commands in their lives differently to you? How should you react to these people?

Answers will vary



Consider passages like Jesus' coronation speech (Luke 4:16-21/Isaiah 61), the ten commandments (Exodus 20:2-17/Deuteronomy 5:6-21), the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12/Luke 6:20-23), and any other relevant passages that come to mind. What do you think of Gaius' proposed order of importance? What are the implications of it?

<i>1. Life and Death</i>	<i>2. Family, Sex and Gender</i>	<i>3. The Environment</i>
<i>4. Justice</i>	<i>5. Education</i>	<i>6. Money</i>

Will you answer Gaius' challenge to dig deeper into the Bible's view on these topics?