

Sanctification

Is sanctification just as important as justification? - David Pawson **Hebrews 12:14**

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.” **Ephesians 5:25-33**

Which comes first: sanctification or nourishing & cherishing the church? Can I nourish & cherish the church w/o the continual ongoing process of sanctification going on in my heart? It means to nourish up to maturity, to soften by heat, to keep warm, to cherish with tender love. Paul’s example **1 Thess 2:1-8 & 19**.

Ephesians 5:33 in the amplified says, “...and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband (that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly.”)

What is sanctification? Does this description of the wife’s attitude toward her husband give us a clear picture of a heart we should long for in our attitude and love for Jesus?

Our Sanctification and its Effect on Others

“He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body.”

1 Peter 2:21 - 3:1-5 – Jesus “kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;” How does this scripture apply to us and sanctification?

How does the behavior of the wife in these verses mirror **John 17:19**, where Jesus said, “For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.”?

What wisdom is here for us in our desire to see our family and others saved? How do you see your sanctification as an instrument of God in the lives of others? Jesus denounced the experts in the Mosaic Law, “Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who were entering.” **Luke 11:52** Balance the importance of **Luke 11:52** with **Luke 13:34**.

Sanctification: perfecting unity/harmony of the Body

Jesus prayed in **John 17:15**: “I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them out of the power of the evil one.” In verse 21 He gives the reason that He asks this of the Father; “that they may all be one;...”

Luke 11:37-54 – the key to life in v.41 – “Don’t think God is asking for something you can’t give.” King James reads, “...give alms of such things as you have...” Does each one of us have what the Lord requires us to give? Does v.41 help us answer this question? Jesus was saying, you Pharisees give the outside and I am instructing you to give the inside.

Sanctification: “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”

Six dangers to the process of sanctification: Mark 4:13-20 - Pick one and describe how it stops or hinders one’s sanctification.

1. Satan
2. Hard heartedness
3. Affliction or Persecution
4. Worries of the World
5. The Deceitfulness of Riches
6. Desire for Other Things

Good Soil(**FAITH**): Hear, Accept, Bear Fruit! **Romans 5:19, 8:1-3, 10:4**

Memory Verse: “Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.” **Hebrews 12:14**

