

# Men's Bible Study **Calvary Chapel** Cajon

In our study of Paul's letter to the Ephesians, we have now moved from the first half of the letter (chapters 1-3), which talks about what God has done in redeeming us, and we are moving into the section (chapters 4-6) where Paul tells us how we are to live in this world as the redeemed.

When God saves us through Christ's work on the cross, we are "born again". This is not the end of salvation, but the beginning. After birth, comes growth.

There is a Biblical and theological term for this growth process, which God works in the life of the believer. It is called **sanctification**.

**Sanctification** can be defined as "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, Systematic Theology).

For your homework this week, please pray and read the following verses. Consider what each text has to say about this work of **sanctification**. How do they help you? What questions do they bring up? Do any seem to conflict? When we meet together next week we will spend our time discussing this specific work of God called **sanctification**.

1. **1 Thessalonians 5:23** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. **1 Corinthians 6:11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.
3. **Ephesians 2:8-10** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

4. **Philippians 2:12-13** Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.
  
5. **Galatians 3:3** Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?
  
6. **Romans 6:1-14** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? <sup>3</sup>Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup>knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. <sup>7</sup>For he who has died has been freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup>knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. <sup>10</sup>For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup>Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup>Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. <sup>13</sup>And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup>For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

7. **1 John 3:9** Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.
  
8. **Colossians 3:1-4** If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.
  
9. **2 Peter 3:17-18** You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; <sup>18</sup>but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.