

Sunday Sermon Notes

"Work of Grace"

I want to be a sanctified Christian: But how?

It is both a

Process: Growth in grace

Crisis: Moment of decision

An analogy from Marriage: Christ and His Bride

Courtship - Process - Prevenient Grace

Proposal - *Crisis* - *Conversion*

Engagement - Process - Growth in Grace

Wedding - *Crisis* - *Entire Sanctification*

Marriage - Process - Growth in Grace

"Entire Sanctification" is a definite second work of grace:

Definite: It is an event that really happens

Second: Christians experience it after conversion

Work: Something really changes in our life

Grace: It is a gift from God

What must I do to be sanctified? Consecrate myself

I must die to self and sin (*Romans 6:5-10*)

I must surrender my will to God's Lordship (*Romans 12:1-2*)

I must trust completely in God's grace (*Romans 15:13*)

What can I know God will do? Sanctify me

He will purify me from the power of sin (*1 John 1:9*)

He will fill me with his love (*Ephesians 3:17-19*)

He will empower me to obey His will (*2 Peter 1:3*)

The most important question I must ask today is not:

When in the past was I sanctified?

or

How can I know if I've been sanctified?

but

Am I today fully consecrated to my Lord?

And simply trust God to do His part!

Digging Deeper

Notes for Individual Meditation and Small Group Discussion

Reviewing the Sermon:

How has your understanding of sanctification changed through this series of sermons?

How does understanding that there is both a process and a crisis in sanctification help you in your understanding?

Which of the parts of consecration do you believe is the most difficult for us to perform?

Which of the parts of God's work of sanctification do you believe is the one you have the most trouble believing can really happen?

How does focusing on our part of sanctification rather than questioning God's part help you in this experience?

Bible Study: Romans 12:1-2

Discussion Questions

(Remember that not all questions must be used)

In Romans chapter 12 Paul begins the part of his book where he encourages his readers to apply the doctrinal truths he has taught into practical, real life living. It is important that we understand that Paul is not teaching what he thinks is an unattainable ideal, but a real possibility for Christians to live out.

Whenever we see a "therefore" in scriptures, we need to find out what the "therefore" is there for. Read Romans 11:33-36 to discover that the "therefore" is there for.

Paul teaches that what we are to do is to be done "in view of God's mercy." How does understanding God's mercy become a motivation for doing what he says to do in this passage?

What do you think it means to "offer your bodies as living sacrifices"? Why do you think he emphasizes that they are be "living" sacrifices? How do we really accomplish this in our lives?

How do our sacrifices become "holy and pleasing to God"? Why is it important to remember that is God who makes us holy, and not we ourselves?

What do you think it means that this is "our spiritual act of worship"? How does offering our bodies become a form of worship?

In what ways are we inclined to be "conformed to the patterns of this world." Why is it so important that we be transformed, and not just try to resist the patterns of the world? Why do you think Paul speaks of "renewing our minds" and not "renewing our hearts"?

The result is that we will be "able" to test and approve what God's will is. What do you think actually makes us "able" to do this? How do we go about "testing" and "approving" God's will?

God's will is described as being "good, perfect, and pleasing." What does this description of God's will tell us about what it is like to live in God's will? How is this different from what we have often thought about God's will?

Prayer Time: Pray that God will help the members of your group to not only learn about holiness, but to experience what God wants them to experience in their lives.



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1 Thessalonians 5:23-4

"Work of Grace"

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Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at

www.middletownnaz.com