

# Theological Foundations for Leadership (TFL)

Creekstone Church • Spring 2011

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## Session #7 — Sanctification

### I. Definitions

1. Westminster Shorter Catechism - Question 35

What is sanctification?

Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are \_\_\_\_\_ in the whole man after the image of God, and are \_\_\_\_\_ more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

2. Heidelberg Catechism - Question 86

Question: Since then we are delivered from our misery, merely of grace, through Christ, without any merit of ours, why must we still do good works?

Answer: Because Christ, having redeemed and delivered us by his blood, also renews us by his Holy Spirit, after his own image; that so we may testify, by the whole of our conduct, our gratitude to God for his blessings...

3. Sanctification is “\_\_\_\_\_ working through \_\_\_\_\_” (Gal. 5:6).

### II. Sanctification Through Faith

1. Galatians 3:1-5

*1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. 2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? 4 Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing? 5 Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?*

2. The Spirit is received initially *and continually* as we \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel.
3. The gospel is that Jesus is my only, but utterly sufficient \_\_\_\_\_.
4. This is critical to understand, because by default we think that the process of change is by looking at the \_\_\_\_\_ rather than the \_\_\_\_\_.

### III. Two Illustrations

1. Moving the log — 4 options

- (1) I move it.
- (2) I \_\_\_\_\_ for God to move it.
- (3) I \_\_\_\_\_ God move it.
- (4) God moves it \_\_\_\_\_ me.

2. The branch and the vine – John 15:4-5

- (1) Sanctification is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Sanctification is the product of gospel \_\_\_\_\_.

#### IV. Helpful Quotes

1. Octavius Winslow

“The Holy Spirit is the efficient cause of all holiness in the believer.”

“It is by simple, close, and searching views of the cross of Christ that the Spirit most effectually sanctifies the believer. This is the true and great method of gospel sanctification... The Spirit especially and effectually sanctifies by unfolding the cross of Jesus.”

“Let no man dream of true mortification of sin, of real sanctification of heart, who does not deal constantly, closely and believingly with the atoning blood of Jesus.”

“Self-trust, self-complacency, self-boasting all must be crucified... Our wisdom is to go in our weakness and folly to Jesus. In this lies the great secret of our victory: ‘When I am weak, then I am strong.’”

2. Francis Schaeffer

“I became a Christian once for all upon the basis of the finished work of Christ through faith; that is justification. The Christian life, sanctification, operates on the same basis, but moment by moment. There is the same base (Christ's work) and the same instrument (faith); the only difference is that one is once for all and the other is moment by moment...If we try to live the Christian life in our own strength we will have sorrow, but if we live in this way, we will not only serve the Lord, but in place of sorrow, He will be our song. That is the difference. The 'how' of the Christian life is the power of the crucified and risen Lord, through the agency of the indwelling Holy Spirit, by faith moment by moment.”

3. Horatius Bonar

“Every plant must have both soil and root. Without both of these there can be no life, no growth, no fruit. The root is “peace with God”; the soil in which that root strikes itself, and out of which it draws the vital sap, is the free love of God in Christ. “Rooted in love” is the apostle's description of a holy man. The secret of a believer's holy walk is his continual recurrence to the blood of the Surety, and his daily intercourse with a crucified and risen Lord. All divine life, and all the precious fruits of it, pardon, peace, and holiness, spring from the cross. All fancied sanctification which does not arise wholly from the blood of the cross is nothing better than Pharisaism. If we would be holy, we must get to the cross, and dwell there; else, notwithstanding all our labour, diligence, fasting, praying and good works, we shall be yet void of real sanctification, destitute of those humble, gracious tempers which accompany a clear view of the cross.”

#### V. Q & A