

RE last week's discussion of 1 Peter 3:7

“But in Colossians 3:19, the apostle Paul told husbands, “Love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.” That is not the same as saying, “Neither of you should be harsh.” We can tell from Ephesians 5:22-33 and 1 Peter 3:7 that this admonition to men is owing to a peculiarly male temptation to be rough — even cruel — and to a peculiarly female vulnerability to that violence, on the one hand, and to a natural female gladness, on the other hand, to be honored with caring protection and strong tenderness.”

Do Men Owe Women a Special Kind of Care?, John Piper

www.desiringgod.org/articles/do-men-owe-women-a-special-kind-of-care

Becoming Like Jesus

Sanctification: growing in Christian maturity

Sanctification

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

Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 746

A paradigm shift to consider

God- _____ or God- _____

A paradigm shift to consider

God-first (a list of priorities)

1. God
2. Family
3. Work
4. Swimming :)
- 5.

A paradigm shift to consider

God-centered

“The majesty of Christ [is] like the sun at the center of the solar system of your life.”

John Piper

Sex and the Supremacy of Christ (Part 2)

Desiring God National Conference, September 26, 2004

Justification and Sanctification compared

Justification	Sanctification
Legal standing	Internal condition
Once for all time	Continuous throughout life
Entirely God's work	We cooperate with God
Perfect in this life	Not perfect in this life
The same in all Christians	Greater in some than in others

Three stages of sanctification

Three stages of sanctification

1. Sanctification has a definite beginning

Redemption (salvation) accomplished and applied

1. Election and predestination (God's sovereignty)
2. Effectual calling (different than the gospel call)
3. Regeneration (new spiritual life)
4. Conversion (faith and repentance)
5. Justification (legal standing)
6. Adoption (children of God)
7. **Sanctification (becoming who we are)**
8. Perseverance of the saints (eternal security)
9. Union with Christ (so important!)
10. Glorification

Sanctification has a definite beginning

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit...

Titus 3:4-5

Sanctification has a definite beginning

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:11

What does this beginning look like?

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 6:11-14

What does this beginning look like?

...having been set free from sin, [you] have become slaves of righteousness.

Romans 6:18

What does this beginning look like?

But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Romans 6:17-18

What does this beginning look like?

“...the desire for light is the beginning of the emergence of light in our lives.”

David Powlison

Making All Things New

Desiring God National Conference, September 25, 2004

Three stages of sanctification

1. Sanctification has a definite beginning
2. Sanctification continues (increases) throughout life

Sanctification continues throughout life

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

Romans 6:12-13

Sanctification continues throughout life

For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

Romans 6:19

Sanctification continues throughout life

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Sanctification continues throughout life

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

Three stages of sanctification

1. Sanctification has a definite beginning
2. Sanctification continues (increases) throughout life
3. Sanctification is completed at death (for our souls) and when Jesus returns (for our bodies)

Sanctification for our souls is completed at death

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:22-24

Sanctification for our bodies is completed when Jesus returns

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Philippians 3:20-21

Perfectionism: Is it possible?

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

Perfectionism: Is it possible?

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:11-12

Perfectionism: Is it possible?

For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

James 3:2

Perfectionism: Is it possible?

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10

Cooperating with God in our sanctification

Cooperating with God - his role

For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Hebrews 12:10-11

Cooperating with God - his role

...for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13

Cooperating with God - his role

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption...

1 Corinthians 1:30

Cooperating with God - his role

...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

Cooperating with God - his role

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

1 Peter 2:21

Cooperating with God - his role

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

2 Thessalonians 2:13

Cooperating with God - his role

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

Cooperating with God - our role

For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Romans 8:13

Cooperating with God - our role

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13

Cooperating with God - our role

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:11-12

Cooperating with God - our role, together

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Cooperating with God - our role, together

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Cooperating with God - our role, together

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13

Sanctification affects the whole person

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Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Colossians 3:9-10

Sanctification affects the whole person

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience...

Galatians 5:22

Sanctification affects the whole person

...for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13

Sanctification affects the whole person

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

2 Corinthians 7:1

Sanctification affects the whole person

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Sanctification affects the whole person

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

What motivates us to pursue sanctification?

What motivates us to pursue sanctification?

1. The desire to please God, because we love him (**John 14:15**)
2. The desire to please God, because we are and will be accountable to God for how we lived our lives (**2 Corinthians 5:9-10**)
3. The desire to keep a clear conscience (**Romans 13:5**)
4. The desire to be “a vessel for honorable use,” useful to God (**2 Timothy 2:20-21**)
5. The desire to see unbelievers come to Christ through observing our lives (**1 Peter 3:1-2**)
6. The desire to receive blessings in this life (**1 Peter 3:9-12**)
7. The desire to avoid God’s displeasure and discipline on our lives (**Hebrews 12:3-11; 1 Peter 1:17**)
8. The desire to seek greater heavenly rewards (**Matthew 6:19-21**)
9. The desire for a deeper walk with God (**Psalms 86:11**)
10. The desire for peace (**Philippians 4:9**) and joy (**Hebrews 12:1-2**) in our lives

Looking ahead: the final two lessons in our three-year Sunday school journey

- Jesus Will Return (November 19)
 - How to discuss the end-times without getting mad at each other
- New Heaven and New Earth (December 3)
- Ideas for December 10, 17, and 31?
- Planning to start the book of Acts on January 7, 2018