

LESSON NO. 4

DISCIPLESHIP WITH PASSION

DISCIPLESHIP
LESSONS FOR
YOUNG ADULTS

LIFE IN
HOLINESS

 **vangelim**
mesoamerica



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LIFE IN HOLINESS

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Biblical Basis: John 17:15-19
Text to memorize: Romans 6:22



PURPOSE

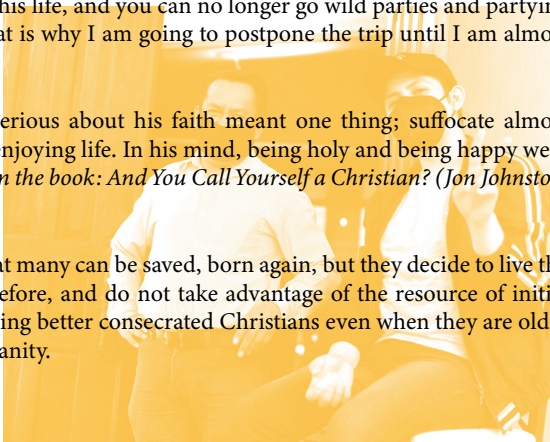
To teach that, after being saved, God's grace provides the necessary resources to achieve a holy lifestyle.

REAL LIFE STORY

A university student from Saudi Arabia was talking about his Muslim faith, someone asked him: When was he planning to do his HAJJ? (A pilgrimage to Mecca that every Muslim makes once in his life). With an embarrassed smile he replied, "No, until I'm very old", for which another question came; Is there any particular reason for waiting so long? He replied, "Of course, yes, in Islam once one makes the holy pilgrimage you are supposed to behave very well for the rest of his life, and you can no longer go wild parties and partying as I am enjoying them now, that is why I am going to postpone the trip until I am almost dying".

For this young man, getting serious about his faith meant one thing; suffocate almost everything he associated with enjoying life. In his mind, being holy and being happy were totally incompatible. *Taken from the book: And You Call Yourself a Christian? (Jon Johnston, 2011, p. 103-104)*

History allows us to observe that many can be saved, born again, but they decide to live the same lifestyle that they lived before, and do not take advantage of the resource of initial holiness, with a mentality of being better consecrated Christians even when they are older and have many years in Christianity.



WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURE SAY?

Verses 15 to 19 on this occasion are taken from the narrative of the Gospel of John. Jesus is celebrating Passover with His disciples prior to His capture, the most beautiful prayer that is remembered to date is performed, called "the priestly prayer of Jesus." In this prayer Jesus prays for the Father to keep the apostles of the world and to sanctify them, because although they were in the world, they now belonged to Jesus.

The intention in this part of the prayer is that God gives them a lifestyle that separates them from the influence of the world, that they do not fall into sin and that they can develop a lifetime in devotion, obedience, and fidelity with which they can be every day set apart for the Father. It is as special to see Jesus interceding for the holiness of His followers of that time as it is for those of this time. For this reason, at the moment of conversion, God, through His grace, offers the new convert a holiness for his beginning, which helps him to live in the truth and thus he can discover that a whole sanctification will come later.

John 17:17,19. _____ by the truth; your word is truth.
For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly _____.

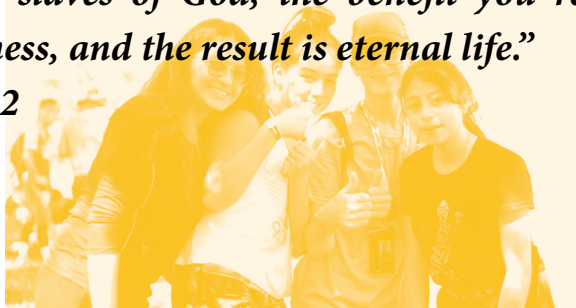
According to the biblical context, why is sanctification of the greatest interest to Jesus for the new disciples?

How do you explain the statement "set apart for God"?

According to 1 Thessalonians 5:23, what can God sanctify?

“But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.”

- Romans 6:22



WHAT IS INITIAL HOLINESS?

Sanctification (*hagiasmós*): Separation for God. State that results from it, the appropriate conduct on behalf of those who are separated. Positional initial holiness is that which is acquired the moment the gospel of Christ is obeyed.

Orton Wiley comments: "It is that act of God subsequent to regeneration, whereby believers are freed from original sin or depravity and brought to a state of entire devotion to God and to the holy obedience of love made perfect." (1982, p. 348).

This initial sanctification is received by the repentance and faith of the sinner, thus begins to live the new life in Christ, this new life is also called regenerated life or initial holiness.

Initial holiness is also called partial holiness, because although the person has already been forgiven his personal sins, the original sin against which he has to continue fighting still remains in his heart, because this tendency towards evil will want to overcome the will of the new regenerated person. God provides you with the inner power of the Holy Spirit to overcome this impulse (Galatians 5:16-18).

To be sanctified means "to be set apart for holy use." In the New Testament the word is used in two verb tenses: past, the believers have been sanctified, God has forgiven the sins setting apart His children for a holy use; and present, there is a process underway where we are continually growing and being used for God's purposes, so the Christian needs the second work of grace, entire sanctification "to completely destroy sin and our inclination to obey it."

With the above, what is initial holiness?

What do you understand when the Word says in 1 Peter 1:16 "Be holy, because I am holy"?

For what reasons does man need initial holiness?



BIBLICAL SUPPORT



Deuteronomy 7:6. For you are a people _____ to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you _____ the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession.

Leviticus 20:26. You are _____ to me because I, the Lord, am _____, and I have set you apart from the nations to _____

According to Colossians 3:12, what aspects should a holy person summon up?

1 Corinthians 3:16. Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? _____

According to Paul in Romans 12:1, how should the body be presented?

According to Hebrews 12:14, what 2 things are asked to look for in order to see the Lord?

According to Ephesians 1:4, what have we been chosen for? _____

According to 1 Peter 2:9, who are you to God? _____

According to Matthew 5: 8, who will see God? _____

John 17:19. For them I sanctify myself, that _____



REFLECTION

If Jesus has already prayed for your sanctification, what things do you have to turn away from?

How do you describe what has happened in your life knowing that God has given you initial holiness?

What changes have occurred after your sanctification?



PRACTICE

We believe that sanctification is the work of God which transforms believers into the likeness of Christ. It is wrought by God's grace through the Holy Spirit in initial sanctification. (*Article 10 Church of the Nazarene Manual*).

How would you expose to a new convert what initial holiness is?

Through what attitudes could they observe your new life in holiness?

What steps could you recommend to other Christians to live in holiness?

Jesus prayed for your holiness, for what other people's issues would you pray right now?

Initial holiness will give you all the necessary help to turn away from sin and get closer to God each day, as well as to begin an involvement in the Church where you are already meeting. Do not forget that a great ally is within you, which is the Holy Spirit, He will be your companion in this new spiritual journey and will provide you with all the resources so that one day you will be entirely sanctified.

Welcome to a new lifestyle called holiness, reminding you the words of the Apostle Peter; "But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do" (1 Peter 1:15).