

The Season of Pentecost

Spiritual Transformation #1: Growing in Sanctification

I. THE JOURNEY AHEAD

⁵ ... because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Romans 5)

<i>Justification:</i>	<i>Sanctification:</i>	<i>Glorification:</i>
"just as if I never sinned"	"growing in holiness"	"no more mortality, sin, or pain"
God declares you to be the righteousness of Christ	The Holy Spirit - (a) grows the new nature in you; (b) puts to death the old nature	We (a) depart to be with Jesus in Paradise; then (b) meet him in new bodies at his Second Coming
The moment you in faith ask the Jesus to enter your life	A lifetime process; undertaken daily	(a) When we die; and (b) when He comes again

II. SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION

A. What Is It?

- The Mind (knowledge & discernment)
- The Character (ethical virtues),
- The Emotions (feelings and motivation).

Sanctification consists not so much in changing our works, as it does in in doing what we have to do every day for God' sake, rather than for our own. That is, going about doing our common business not for the sake of pleasing others, but rather for the love of God. We are as strictly obliged to adhere to God in our actions, in the time of action, as we are by our prayers, in the time of prayer. – Brother Lawrence

B. Who Brings It about?

C. So How Does this Process Work?

1. God & You

^{12b} work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (Philippians 2)

2. Choosing

3. The Means of Grace:

- Hearing/Listening to God speak through His Word
- Talking to Him in Prayer
- Communing with God by the Sacraments
- Fellowshiping with others who have the Spirit
- Testifying of His presence in us to others

D. Who Should Be Involved in ST?

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)

III. GOD'S HOLY CALL

¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God (Hebrews 12)

God is like an infinite ocean. Yet we are content with a little wave of feeling, which passes in a moment. Blind as we are, we hinder God and stop the great current of his graces.

- Brother Lawrence

IV. HOW SHALL WE RESPOND?

²³ For if someone merely listens to the message and does not live it out, he is like someone who gazes at his own face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he gazes at himself and then goes out and immediately forgets what sort of person he was.

(James 1 NET)

²⁵ But the one who peers into the perfect law of liberty and fixes his attention there, and does not become a forgetful listener but one who lives it out- he will be blessed in what he does. (James 1 NET)