

## The Doctrine of Sanctification: Part 2

### Seven Ways to Enlarge our Sanctification

1. **Sanctification is enlarged by our study of the Word**, Jn 8:31-32; Jn 17:17. We are to desire the milk and meat of the word in order to grow in faith and maturity as believers, 1 Pet 2:2; Heb 5:12-13. Feeding on the Word of God provides spiritual food that is the key living the Spirit filled life, Eph 5:18-19 and Col 3:16.
2. **Sanctification is enlarged by walking in the Spirit**, Gal 5:16-26; Col 3:5-8. By obedience to the Word of God we are filled with the Spirit. He then uses the Word to guide us, Jn 16:13-15. The more we walk in the light of the Word of God the more we are led by the Holy Spirit, and the more victory we have over the power of sin in our lives, Eph 5:26. Believers must learn to walk in the power of the Spirit, and be spiritually minded, not carnally minded, see Romans 6:12; 8:1-27.
3. **Sanctification is enlarged by prayer**, As we pray we share our needs with God and we give Him the opportunity to speak to us, work in us, and work in the lives of those we lift before Him in prayer, Ps 51:10-17; 119:97; Mt 6:5-13; Mt 26:41; Lk 18:1; 22:40; Heb 13:18.
4. **Sanctification is enlarged by godly fellowship**, Heb 10:24-25. We are to help one another and provoke each other to love and good works. We are not to forsake assembling but exhort each other especially as we see the day of Jesus return approaching. "Fellowship" is the Greek *koinonia*, which literally means "common mind." In Christ we share the common bond and common mind with other believers that allows us to walk in the light, 1 Jn 1:6-9.
5. **Sanctification is enlarged when we surrender our will to God's will**, 1 Th 4:3. Sanctification itself is God's will for our lives, Rom 6:7; 1 Cor 6:17. Facing the cross, Jesus prayed, "not as I will, but as you will," He is our example! Mt 26:39.
6. **Sanctification is enlarged by chastening**, Heb 12:6-11; 1 Pet 1:7. Chastening in the life of a believer is never a welcome event. But because it affirms the legitimacy of our salvation and the love God has for us to show us His discipline, it can become a growing experience in our lives if we learn to receive it as an act of God's love and not grow bitter, but instead to get better, Heb 12:12-15.
7. **Sanctification is enlarged by our hope of Jesus' soon coming**, We are to live daily in light of the soon coming of our Lord. We are to seek faithfully serve and obey as we see the day approach, Acts 20:32; 1 Jn 3:3; Titus 2:12-13; Eph 5:27.

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