



**CORRESPONDING LEVEL WEB #s**

- Defenders: 041002 
- Detectives: 041002 
- Developers: 041002 



## GOD'S PURPOSE FOR HIS CHILDREN



### MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible; Teacher Preparation Guide  
*(optional supplements: K4T songbook and PowerPoint files of lyrics; Internet connectivity or download of Dynabox dynamation, Dynabox tracts for your students, paper and writing utensils for "if time" activities)*



### SUGGESTED ORIGINAL KIDS 4 TRUTH SONG

"To Be Like Jesus"

### SUGGESTED HYMNS

"Be Thou My Vision," "May the Mind of Christ, My Saviour"

### OTHER SONG SUGGESTIONS

*Older kids:* "For Me To Live Is Christ," "A Tender Heart," "Higher Ground," "Channels Only"

*Younger kids:* "I'm in the Lord's Army," "Take Time To Be Holy," "I Am Thine, O Lord," "I Love To Tell the Story"

## THE BASICS

### PRIMARY TRUTH

Sanctification is the process of God changing us to become more and more like Jesus Christ.

### PRIMARY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

**2 Corinthians 3:18**



### WHAT THIS DOCTRINE REVEALS ABOUT GOD

One of the wonderful benefits of salvation is sanctification. People that do not have salvation cannot be sanctified. God wants us to become more and more like Christ so He sanctifies us. Without God providing everything necessary for us to be sanctified, we would never become more like Jesus Christ. God does everything necessary to fulfill His good and perfect will. He is a wonderful, majestic God worthy of all our praise. He has set us apart from the penalty of sin. He is now actively setting us apart from the power of sin. Someday, He will set us apart from the very presence of sin.

### KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES – By God's grace...

- The child will learn the word "sanctification."
- The child will learn that sanctification begins at salvation, and those that are not saved cannot enjoy the blessing of sanctification.
- The child will learn that sanctification progresses throughout the Christian's life.
- The child will learn that sanctification is completed when the Christian finally sees Jesus.
- The child will learn that he/she cooperates with God in His work of sanctification.
- The child will learn that sanctification involves every part of them.

**ATTITUDE OBJECTIVES – By God's grace...**

- The child will be thankful that God is changing him/her to be more like Jesus.
- The child will desire to be as actively involved as possible in the sanctification process.
- The child will see sanctification as a wonderful and blessed thing, not a dry and boring thing.

**PRAYER****TEACHING PHASE – INTRO**

(about 5 minutes)

**BIG CHRISTIAN WORD: SANCTIFICATION**

Sanctification is God's process of changing Christians to become more like Jesus Christ. We have discovered that God's primary purpose for His children is for them to bring Him glory by becoming more and more like Jesus. The symbol for this Adventure is a tree with visible fruit on it. This symbol reminds us that God's purpose for us is to grow in Christ and bring forth fruit – just like Jesus did.

We will now discover that God does the work of “sanctification” to bring about this change in our lives. We become more and more like Jesus through **sanctification**.

**COMMENTARY**

God is glorified when we become like Him because we're sending a message to the world: “God is valuable! God is worthy! God is better than anything or anyone else! God's way is best! God reigns over me, and it is wonderful!”

**INSTRUCTION & REINFORCEMENT**

(about 10-20 minutes)

**COMMENTARY**

God's desire for all Christians is that they be **sanctified**. This means God wants us to become more and more like Jesus Christ in the way we act, the way we speak, and the way we are – both inside and out. To be “sanctified” means to be set apart by God from sin and unto Himself. **Sanctification is the process by which we are set apart for God's glory.**

Sanctification means **change**.

When God saves people, He changes them. He changed their position before Him immediately. Those once counted as “enemies” became friends at salvation. They were once unacceptable, but at salvation we became family. They were once pronounced “guilty”, but, at salvation, they were declared “righteous.” All those things happen the moment someone receives God's gift of salvation.

But there is one kind of change that salvation brings which happens gradually throughout our entire lives – not immediately. Sanctification is God's process of changing us to become more and more like Jesus Christ in all we do and all we are. This means serious changes need to take place in our entire being!



Since salvation is God's work, and sanctification is part of salvation, all saved people will be sanctified. This means that it is impossible to become a Christian and not change to be more like Christ. God has granted sanctification to all His children in order to guarantee that they will become more like Christ in some measure (some more than others) while on Earth.

Sanctification can be seen as bearing fruit. God created fruit trees to bear fruit, and God sanctifies Christians to bring forth good fruit too. But the fruit we yield is not like apples or oranges. The fruit we bear is goodness and righteousness.



**BIBLE DRILL (#1) – What do these verses teach is the fruit of the Christian that walks in light?  
Ephesians 5:8-9**

We grow by believing the right things about God – the truth. True Christian growth does not take place unless we know and believe God's thoughts about how we grow.



**BIBLE DRILL (#2) – What sanctifies Christians?  
John 17:17**

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



**BIBLE DRILL (3) – Which Person of the Trinity is especially involved in the sanctification of believers?  
1 Peter 1:2**

**COMMENTARY**

The word “sanctify” literally means *set apart*. Sanctification is God's process to set us apart from sin more and more.

- Sanctification begins when God saves us. **God sets us apart from the penalty of sin.**
  - There is freedom from the power and love of sin. **Romans 6:14**
  - Do you still love your sin more than Jesus?
- Sanctification continues throughout our life here. God sets us apart from the power of sin.
  - Key verse.
  - **2 Corinthians 3:18**
  - Do you desire to become more like Jesus? Are you continually ordering your life in a way to become more like Christ?
- Sanctification is completed when we see Jesus and are fully changed into His image. **God sets us apart from the very presence of sin.**
  - **Philippians 3:21**
  - **1 Corinthians 15:49**
  - Do you look forward to the day when you will not battle sin?

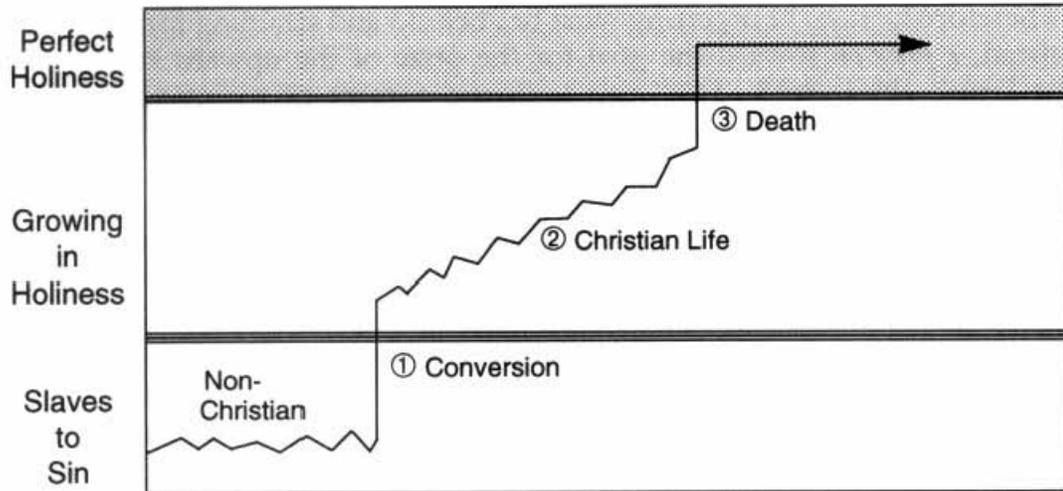


**WHITEBOARD / CHALKBOARD ILLUSTRATION (1)**

Reproduce the following chart from Grudem. Before class draw the three tiers and label them. Then, during your lesson, draw the line throughout the three tiers. As you draw, explain what is happening. This is designed to show



the progression of sanctification throughout our lives. You can explain that the word “holiness” means “becoming more like Christ” or “Christlikeness.”



**ACTIVITY**

You may want to call on a few children to come to the board and ask them to place a dot as to where they believe they are currently at in the sanctification process.



**BIBLE DRILL (#4) – Can a Christian’s sanctification be complete while we live here? No. We will always be battling sin.**

- John 1:8
- Romans 7:21

**COMMENTARY – Is sanctification God’s work or our work?**

In sanctification, God works, and we work – but God works to cause us to work! God’s work is primary; our work is secondary. Any work we do is first a work of God. Many good theologians have looked at sanctification as a work in which God and man **cooperate** in order to accomplish God’s will. This truth can especially be seen in **Philippians 2:12-13**



**BIBLE DRILL (#5) – How do these verses show that both the believer and God are involved in sanctification?**

**Philippians 2:12-13** [In verse 12, God commands us to “work out” our salvation. This is a command for us to be active! But in verse 13, God makes it clear that the One truly working is not us – it’s God! This is mysterious, but we should understand that sanctification is both passive and active for us. Something must be done to us, and something must be done by us.]

It is important to note that all of God’s commands for us to be active in our sanctification are grounded upon something that God has already done or is doing. In other words, there is no sanctification apart from God. The initial work of God in our sanctification guarantees that our own work will be profitable to accomplish His will.

Here’s a good way to look at it: Sanctification is my responsibility but it’s God’s work. It’s on my shoulders to



become more like Jesus. But it is only God that can make us more like Jesus.

### COMMENTARY

Sanctification progresses from the inside out – not from the outside in.



### ILLUSTRATION (#6)

One part of sanctification is cleansing, or purifying. We will struggle with sin in varying degrees all of our lives, so we need to be continually cleansed and purified by the Word and the Holy Spirit. Our souls need a deep spiritual cleansing because of sin. Perhaps you've helped your mom clean the kitchen floor. Sometimes, all she does is sweep; other times, she might mop. But, once or twice a year, she probably gets down on her hands and knees and scrubs all the dirt with a special brush. She reaches under the refrigerator and cleans there too. She does a thorough job. This is the kind of cleaning that God is doing in our souls – and it continues all our lives. God is cleaning the dirt out of our lives to make us spotless like Jesus. But instead of using a scrub brush to clean us, God uses the Holy Spirit and His Word (the Bible).

Sanctification isn't a result of our own efforts, but a response to God's efforts and leading. We cooperate with God by submitting to him.

### COMMENTARY – What does God use to sanctify us? (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

1. His Word, the **truth**
2. Himself, through the Holy Spirit.



### BIBLE DRILL (#6) – What was Paul's prayer for the believers at Thessalonica?

**1 Thessalonians 5:23** – And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



### ILLUSTRATION (#7)

Some people think that sanctification does not involve intense effort to obey on the part of the person. But that's not good thinking. We are repeatedly commanded to be actively involved in our sanctification in one way or another. One good way of viewing sanctification is to see it as a war. The object of the war is control of your mind and body. Your opponents are the world, your flesh, and the devil. You are a soldier in the war, fighting to become more Christlike. But Who is your General? Who is the One that gives you orders? God is the one that gives the orders, equips you with all the arsenal you need to have victory, and wants you to become more like Jesus. What is your role then before God? Are you His commander? Absolutely not! Can you get God to do whatever you'd like? Never! You are a soldier in God's army. You are to submit to the authority of your Commander. You are to simply trust and obey. There's no other way to win the war!



### ACTIVITY / BIBLE DRILL (#7)

[Have the boys and girls look up the following verses. After each verse is looked up and read, ask the question, "does this verse teach A. that we are to be active in our sanctification, B. that sanctification is God's work and He is active in our sanctification, or C. both A & B.

- Romans 8:13
- Romans 6:13
- Philippians 2:12



- **Philippians 2:13**
- **Hebrews 12:14**
- **Romans 12:1**
- **Hebrews 12:5-6**
- **Hebrews 13:20-21**
- **1 Peter 1:2**
- **Romans 8:14**



**(this would be a great place for the fruit of your Teacher Truth Study)**



### **GETTING BACK TO GOD**

One of the wonderful benefits of salvation is *sanctification*. People that do not have salvation cannot be sanctified. God wants us to become more and more like Christ so He sanctifies us. Without God providing everything necessary for us to be sanctified, we would never become more like Jesus Christ. God does everything necessary to fulfill His good and perfect will. He is a wonderful, majestic God worthy of all our praise. He has set us apart from the penalty of sin. He is now actively setting us apart from the power of sin. Someday, He will set us apart from the very presence of sin.



## **APPLICATION & ASSESSMENT**

**“INTERNALIZE IT!”** from Teacher Preparation Phase  
(about 5-10 minutes)

1. Application & Assessment (about 5-10 minutes)

Internalize It! (from Teacher Preparation Phase)

You might begin this section by saying: Boys and girls, as I've been preparing for this TruthTime Lesson, here's what God has been showing me. . .

You might continue by saying:

Because of what God is teaching me, here's what is going to be different in my life during this next week. . .

You might finish by saying:

Finally, here's what God has taught me about Himself through these truths . . .



### **Discussion Time Questions**

- Since the Bible says we are sanctified as we know Christ more and more, what are some practical things we could do to know Christ better?
- Should a Christian ever be content with where he is spiritually? Is there always room to grow? Why, or why not?
- When you look back over the past year, what are some ways in which God has changed you to be more like Christ?
- How would you explain what “sanctification” is to someone who just became a Christian?



## APPENDICES OR “IF TIME”

(optional)



### ACTIVITY

Write down 10 things you know your Commander would have you to do in your fight to become more and more like Jesus Christ.



### EXTRA ACTIVITY IDEAS



- Download and present the DynaBox dynamation *via* a large-screen TV or projector.  
<http://www.k4t.com/dynabox/>



- Distribute and put together the DynaBox tract. Encourage the children to give the tract during the week. The DynaBox tract can be purchased at:  
<http://store.kids4truth.com/detail.aspx?ID=188>