

Christ's ἐκκλησία & the “One Another” Body Life Commands

- Be at peace with one another, Mk 9:50
- Love one another, Jn 13:34-35; Jn 15:12, 17; Rom 13:8; 1 Jn 3:11,
- Be devoted (φιλόστοργοι) to one another, Rom 12:10
- Give preference (προηγούμενοι) to one another in honor, Rom 12:10
- Stop passing judgment with one another, Rom 14:13
- Accept one another; then, just as Christ accepted you, Rom 15:7
- Have equal concern for each other, 1 Cor 12:25
- Serve one another in love, Gal 5:13
- Carry each other's burdens, Gal 6:2
- Be patient, bearing with one another in love, Eph 4:2
- Be kind and compassionate to one another, Eph 4:32
- Forgiving each other, Eph 4:32
- Bear with each other, Col 3:13
- Make you love increase and overflow for each other, 1 Thess 3:12
- Encourage each other, 1 Thess 4:18; 5:11; Heb 10:25
- Pray for each other, Js 5:16
- Love each other deeply/ἐκτενῆ/faithfully, 1 Pet 4:8

Preparation for Bible Class – 2 Cor. 6:16-7:1

2 Corinthians 6:16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹⁷ "Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate," says the Lord. "And do not touch what is unclean ; And I will welcome you. ¹⁸ "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty. **7:1** Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement (μολυσμοῦ) of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- ✓ Defilement of our inbred OSHGEN and paganism of KD.
- ✓ Our sinful nature--no one had to teach us to disobey, or act selfishly—it is in our fallen nature. *We are evil by nature!*
- ✓ Why do we enjoy things that are bad for us? Addictions to our OSHGEN--selfish, angry, greed, bitterness, impurity, etc.
- ✓ There is only one solution and that is life in God—sanctification!
- ✓ Try to get rid of your evil inclination by yourself and see how binding sin is—you will just go from one addiction to another.

Psalm 56:13 ¹³ For Thou hast delivered my soul from death [sin unto death], Indeed my feet from stumbling [into greater sin-evil], So that I may walk (לְהִתְהַלֵּךְ) before God (לְפָנַי אֱלֹהִים) In the light of the living (בְּאֹר הַחַיִּים).

SANCTIFICATION

1. Walking before the presence of God falls under the rubric of sanctification. This was the key to David's recovery and greatness.
2. There are two spheres to sanctification—"from" & "to."
 - a. Separation from world (kosmos diabolicus), flesh (OSHGEN), and the devil (enemy of God). God took us *out* of these realms.
 - b. Separation to God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)—connectedness *to* God in an intimate way. A connection that purifies, strengthens, ennobles, and blesses, 2 Cor. 7:1.
3. Apart from separation *to* God, all separation is meaningless. It would mean nothing to simply be taken out of the world. Furthermore, all human "saintly" activity is worthless. Sanctification is 100% a work of God. All we can do is respond to His grace.

4. There are three aspects to the concept of sanctification. Charles Ryrie in the *Ryrie Study Bible* (cf. note on 1 Cor. 6:11) writes:
“There are three aspects to sanctification:
- (1) positional sanctification, possessed by every believer from the moment of his conversion (his perfect standing in holiness, Acts 20:32; 1 Cor. 1:2);*
 - (2) progressive sanctification, the daily growth in grace; becoming in practice more and more set apart for God’s use (John 17:17; Eph. 5:26); and*
 - (3) ultimate sanctification, attained only when we are fully and completely set apart to God in heaven (1 Thess. 5:23)*

5. The moment you believed in Jesus Christ, you *positionally* became a saint—you are 100% holy as you were placed in union with Christ eternally (cf. ἡγιασμένοις, perfect passive ptc., 1 Cor. 1:2). All believers are saints by calling (κλητοῖς ἁγίοις, 1:2).
6. Note just how “messed up” the Corinthians were and yet they were positionally sanctified. Their sanctification had nothing to do with what they “did.” They were messed up and would shock most believers (e.g. many would say they were “not really saved”). The Corinthians were perfectly sanctified (1 Cor. 1:2).
7. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were fighting over who was the greatest, 1 Cor. 1:12.
8. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were filled with jealousy and strife, 1 Cor. 3:3.

9. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were walking like the unsaved, 1 Cor. 3:3.
10. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were very judgmental, especially with regard to their spiritual leader, 1 Cor. 4:5.
11. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were filled with arrogance, 1 Cor. 4:18.
12. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though there was sexual immorality and licentiousness among them, 1 Cor. 5:1.
13. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were suing each other in court, 1 Cor. 6:1.

14. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though some were involved with prostitutes, 1 Cor. 6:16.
15. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they had marital problems, 1 Cor. 7:1-20.
16. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though some accused Paul of being “in it” for the money, 1 Cor. 9.
17. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though many were drunk at communion and “*many*” were suffering under divine discipline, even the SUD, 1 Cor. 11:18-21.
18. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though many were disoriented to the Body Life of the church, 1 Cor. 12.

19. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they did not possess divine love, 1 Cor. 13.
20. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they were arrogant in their improper use of tongues, 1 Cor. 14.
21. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though some denied the doctrine of resurrection, 1 Cor. 15:12.
22. The Corinthians were perfectly positionally sanctified in CJ, even though they had all of these problems. It was not that they had a head belief and not heart belief; it was not that they really were not saved; it was not that they lost their salvation—or any other malarkey or balderdash. The problem was in their lack of experiential sanctification.

23. All believers are saints, cf. Rom. 1:7; Eph. 1:1; Philip. 1:1; Col. 1:2.
24. All believers were permanently sanctified in (i.e. set apart to) Jesus Christ by means of the baptizing ministry of the Holy Spirit, 1 Cor. 12:13.
- ✓ **1 Corinthians 12:13** For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
25. Experiential sanctification is the single most important doctrine as far as the Christian spiritual life is concerned.
26. All that God does in our lives is centered on progressive experiential sanctification, Heb. 12:5-14.
27. The believer who does not advance in progressive sanctification with God will experience much suffering due to divine discipline.

28. Living in sanctification with God is only possible by applying the doctrinal promises of God, 2 Cor. 7:1.
29. All ability to live and advance in sanctification comes from the Sanctifying One, AKA the Holy Spirit.
30. God never chastises the believer punitively; His chastisements always have a corrective purpose, which is sanctification, Heb. 12:10.
31. Divine discipline is always for our good/benefit (τὸ συμφέρον), i.e. sanctification, to get us back to the Plan of God., Heb. 12:10.
32. This means that the believer cannot afford not to live a life set apart/connected to God. We cannot afford to waste time in carnality or KD.

33. This means that the believer must live in fellowship with God, which is the only way to live set apart from the world, flesh, and the devil (cf. Eph. 6:10). Fellowship with God is what holiness is all about. It really is that simple, and yes, that profound.
34. We all suffer under divine discipline (Heb. 12:6) because of our immaturity and arrogance.
35. The only question is, “How do we respond/react to His discipline?”
36. It is our reaction or response that will determine the direction of sanctification. How will you respond or react? Note how David reacted and responded.

37. Reaction means rebelling against the plan of God. This only brings in more discipline (1 Cor. 11:28-30) due to carnality which itself brings about depression, sublimation, and more reversionism. Reaction is always attended by self-justification.
38. Responding , on the other hand, means that you confess your sins, and get back to walking in doctrine by means of the Spirit—you get back to the POG. Responding is always attended by thankfulness for the wakeup call—even for the pain that motivated you to break some evil pattern in the life.
39. God will make your life hurt in one way or another in DD to wake you up to the spiritual life. God is too good of a Father to allow His children to act like a bunch of spoiled, self-centered, selfish, kids with attitude problems. He loves you too much to let you mess yourself up.

40. God always disciplines us for our good—not because He is angry or simply because we are bad boys and girls—so that we will get back to fellowship with Him, Heb. 12:10. This was the issue with David. David learned this lesson so well, cf. Psalm 23
41. Though the believer possesses positional holiness, it is experiential/progressive holiness that is the issue in phase 2. DD is designed to wake us up, “bleed” more of our arrogance out of our lives, and recognize the great need to live our lives before the Lord—and not others!
42. The difference between the Israelites, Saul, Solomon and Joshua, David, and Isaiah was in their response/reaction to DD. All of us begin life filled with arrogance, some respond to DD while others react. The only way to remove arrogance is responding and getting back to sanctification—life with God.

43. More on experiential (phase II) sanctification, 1 Thess. 4:1-8.

Sexual impurity is one of the quickest ways to destroy progressive sanctification with God because it leads to a habitual perverted way of thinking that dominates the life.

44. One of the reasons Bible doctrine is such a powerful resource for sanctification is because it changes the way a person thinks, cf. Jn, 17:17. Consider how differently you think about God, self, and life because of Bible doctrine. The world will never be the same (never OK) for us again. It is also important to remember that in progressive sanctification there is always fruit bearing. All that is not a product of sanctification is superficial, fake and phony. Growth in the WOG brings more sanctification as we gain more of the mind of Christ.

45. Sanctification means that you belong to God and that He has a purpose for your life (cf. Rom.1:1). How many really live in these realities? To be God's property, set apart to Him apart from the Lake of Fire and the enemies of God is one of the most wonderful things in life. Every believer has been set apart to God in Christ and in the royal family of God forever and ever. Sons and daughters of God forever and ever. What a deal! A special plan with a special purpose. A code to live by. A plan to fulfill. It does not get any better than that! Because of sanctification our lives can be marked by greater and greater heights and get better and better with each year!

46. We have all been positionally sanctified "for all time" by Christ.

- ✓ **Hebrews 10:10** By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- ✓ **Hebrews 10:14** For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

47. Biblical holiness/sanctification is nothing less than the flow of divine presence, goodness, character, and power into the believer from a moment by moment sustained fellowship with God, Gal 5:22-23; Philip 2:13.

➤ **Philippians 2:13** for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing; ¹⁵ that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life

- **1 Thessalonians 4:3** For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain/keep away from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel [manage sexual impulses] in sanctification and honor, ⁵ not [giving into] lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;
- **Hebrews 12:10** For they disciplined us only for a short time and only as best they could; but he disciplines us in a way that provides genuine benefit to us and enables us to share/μεταλαβεῖν in his holiness.

- **1 Peter 1:14-15** As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵ but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." ¹⁷
- **2 Peter 3:11** Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

48. It really is all about connection with God (fellowship) through the Word of God---learning and applying Bible doctrine. The best way to examine your own life is through the three lens of salvation, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

- ✓ Salvation: understanding of grace, gratitude for grace, and desire to tell others of this grace
- ✓ Spiritual: confession, recovery, intake of BD, application for sustained fellowship, relationship with a local church—other believers, overcoming kosmos diabolicus.
- ✓ Spiritual growth: continued edification in the grand truths of the faith. Move out of narcissistic, self-serving attitude to Bible doctrine.

49. Progressive sanctification is the only solution to the problem of parlaying sin into evil. There is no other way (cf. religion, tenacity, human good, or any type of human works system). The solution is recovery through confession of sin followed by learning and applying the doctrinal resources as unto the Lord. Sanctification alone makes it possible for the believer to consistently abide in Him (sustained fellowship) and thus overcome the temptation/evil the next time. Resources for sanctification: FR, reckoning, growing in grace, becoming an overcomer, learning more BD, living in the mandates of God through power of the HS, Rom 6:1-14; Gal 5:16-22; 2 Pet 3:18; Mat 4:6; Heb 10:25.

50. The Church Age believer has far more opportunities for much for greater sanctification and thus divine power, virtue, wisdom, and capacity to “walk in the light of lives” than David or any OT believer.
51. After Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, He poured out the HS (τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον) *into* believers to take up residency inside them---formerly, the HS was only “alongside.”
- ✓ **John 14:17** *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you (ὅτι παρ’ ὑμῶν μένει καὶ ἐν ὑμῶν ἔσται).

52. The *Hagios* Spirit takes up residence within the life of the believer, not only thereby to unite him to Christ but to experientially work the sanctification of Christ in his life.
53. Now Christ lives in the CA believer through the indwelling *Hagios* Spirit, Jn 14:16-20.
- ✓ John 14:18, I will not leave you as orphans; I come to you.

54. The inner presence of the Holy Spirit gives the believer the supernatural dynamics for the unique spiritual life of the church age.

✓ **John 14:16-17** "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.

55. It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to point to (and make a home inside of us for) Christ just as it is the ministry of Christ to reveal God/Father.

- ✓ **John 15:26** "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, *that is* the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me,
- ✓ **John 16:14**, "He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you.
- ✓ **John 14:8-9** Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, 'Show us the Father '?"

56. Christ is our life and the beauty and need for a living vital union between Christ and the believer is expressed by a number of metaphors. **Colossians 3:4**, . . . *Christ, who is our life* (ἡ ζωὴ ὑμῶν).

- **The Body of Christ** metaphor emphasizes the CA believer's dependence upon the leadership of Christ as the Head, & His sustenance.
- Col 2:19b . . . holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

- **The Temple of God** metaphor emphasizes the CA believer as being the habitation of God.
- ✓ **2 Cor 6:16** Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
- ✓ **1 Peter 2:5** you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- **The Priest** analogy emphasizes the CA believer's access to God, the service of sacrifice, and the service of witness.

- ✓ **1 Pet. 2:4** And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- ✓ **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

- **The Bridegroom-Bride** analogy emphasizes Christ's love for the CA believer as manifested by loving, nourishing and cherishing her. Marriage is an exclusive devoted love. There were 3 stages of marriage in the ANE.

1st Stage, betrothal (church age),

- **2 Cor 11:2** *For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

2nd Stage: Rapture. The bride is taken to the Groom.

- **1 Thess 4:16-17** For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up (ἄρπαγησόμεθα) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with (πάντοτε σὺν) the Lord.

3rd Stage: Consummation of the marriage (Marriage Supper),

- **Revelation 19:7** "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." ⁸ And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts (τὰ δικαιώματα) of the saints. ⁹ And he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

- **The outworking of the husband's love via JC**
 - ❖ **Ephesians 5:25,29** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her . . . Nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church.
 - ❖ **1 Pet 3:7**, You husbands in the same way [!], live with (συνουκοῦντες) your wives in an understanding way (κατὰ γνῶσιν) as with someone weaker (certainly not weaker mentally, spiritually, or socially).

- **The outworking of the wife's submission via JC**
 - ❖ **1 Pet 3:1, 6**, in the same way [!] . . . just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord (κύριον) . . .

- **The Shepherd and His flock** metaphor emphasizes the believer's dependence upon the sacrificial love, tender care, protection, and nourishment from the Chief Shepherd.
 - ✓ **Psalm 23:1** The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
 - ✓ **Psalm 79:13** So we Thy people and the sheep of Thy pasture Will give thanks to Thee forever; To all generations we will tell of Thy praise.
 - ✓ **Psalm 100:3** Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

- ✓ **John 10:9** "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- ✓ **John 10:11** "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

- **The Vine and the branch metaphor** emphasize the organic union of the CA believer with Christ. Abiding in Him means life and fruitfulness; apart from Him there is worthlessness/deadwood/spiritual barrenness.
- ✓ **John 15:1-5**, "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He lifts up (αῖρει); and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit. 3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken (λελάληκα) to you. 4 "Abide in Me (μείνατε ἐν ἐμοί), and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing." Compare Rom 7:15-25.