

INTRO

As we continue our series on the distinctives of our Alliance movement, what has been your understanding of the word sanctification?

(Distinctives: Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King)

IDEA 1

Sanctification is the result of the Spirit working in us and not our effort. And yet, we do have a role to play—this is a partnership—which can get tricky. There is tension in the journey: What is our part and what is God’s part?

Rob shared the cycles within ongoing sanctification and how we can partner with God in the process.

What came to mind when Rob shared the phrase: “Without Him we can’t, without us He won’t.” Did it bring hope, confusion, clarity, challenge, etc.? Why do you think it brings up those thoughts and emotions?

The cycle of sanctification that Rob shared was: surrender, dedication, filling.

Talk through each of those with your group and discuss what each one means in your life.

What is challenging about each?

What is encouraging about each?

What daily, weekly, or routine practices help with each of these?

IDEA 2

Sanctification is a supernatural work—God will make this Happen! 1 Peter 1:2 affirms this: *God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy.*

Rob listed some of the things that sanctification can produce in us, including the fruits of the Spirit.

What are some of the outcomes of sanctification you have seen in your own life?

What things would you like to see moving forward in partnership with God?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Sanctification is a constant yielding and constant receiving. And while the process looks different for everyone, we can share in the process as well. While sanctification does take time, it's wise to pause together and come before the Lord in community to surrender, to declare our dedication, and to ask for the filling of Holy Spirit. Spend some time in your group doing that together using the prompts below.

Sit with your hands face down as if you were going to lay something at Jesus' feet.

- **Prompt 1: *I surrender my body, soul, and spirit to the loving rule of Jesus Christ***
(Allow time for quiet prayer)

Now turn your hands right side up as an invitation.

- **Prompt 2: *I dedicate and consecrate my whole self to Him in every way. I ask for the blood of Jesus to cleanse me and make me holy again.***
(Allow time for quiet prayer)
- **Prompt 3: *Holy Spirit, come and fill your temple now; restore my body under the full rule and reign of Jesus Christ.***
(Allow time for quiet prayer)

Make time and space for anyone who has something to share about their experience, as well as the freedom to not share at this time.

NEXT STEPS

The prayer prompts used in the spiritual practice section can be a good way to start each day this week. Consider setting it as a reminder on your phone for a certain time each day or write it out on your mirror or a place you will see it and commit to the practice for a season. Notice where God meets you in those moments.

I surrender my body, soul and spirit to the loving rule of Jesus Christ;

I dedicate and consecrate my whole self to Him in every way. I ask for the blood of Jesus to cleanse me and make me holy again.

Holy Spirit, come and fill your temple now; restore my body under the full rule and reign of Jesus Christ.