

Deepening our Relationship with God

Day 19

“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth...And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth” John 17:17,19

Key Thought: God SANCTIFIES us according to the truth.

The word sanctify is much like the word consecrate. Both mean to set apart for special use.

In Romans 12:1-2, Paul encourages believers, “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” In other words, as true believers in Christ, the act of sanctification involves our lives being a living sacrifice to Him; we are totally separating ourselves from the sin of the world.

Today’s passage indicates this separation is also linked to biblical truth. We are to set ourselves apart by the teaching and training of the Word of God. Psalm 119:11 says, “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” David continues to pray to God in verse 43, “And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules. I will keep your law continually, forever and ever, and I shall walk in a wide place, for I have sought your precepts.”

In our world today, the Bible does not mean very much. If you try to answer questions about Christianity with words from Scripture most people just say they don’t believe in the Bible. But if the Bible isn’t true where does one go to search for truth? Followers of Jesus, however, have held to the truth of biblical claims for centuries and changed hearts and lives as well as the inerrant words themselves are a testimony to the authenticity of Scripture. Hebrews 4:12 reminds us, “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of the spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Let us continue to be sanctified by the true words of life found in Scripture.

Questions to Ponder

1. Do you believe the entire Bible is true?
2. How have you been set apart by the truths of Scripture?

Possible Prayer Points

1. Thank God that He has spoken through His holy word.
2. Ask God to reveal Himself to you through the pages of the Bible.

How do you think you should relate with God as a result of Him trying to relate to you in this way?