

# How to Explain “SANCTIFICATION”

- We can inadvertently make it seem like becoming a Christian starts with GRACE but continues with WILL POWER
- Morality can become the MODE instead of the RESULT.
- Jesus rescued us from the shackles of sin and then we take on the heavy burden and ill-fitted yoke of BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION (Gal. 5:1)

**What is Sanctification?** The GROWING process of becoming more like Christ, both INSIDE and OUT.

**What does the Bible have to say about it?**

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## CONTEXT on Galatians

- Galatian Church founded by Paul’s first missionary journey. Confronts Judaizers.
- **Primary message:** Saved by grace through faith, not by works. Our flesh is broken, and the power is in the Spirit. Human effort alone cannot produce spiritual fruit.
- **Legalism (Nomism) definition:** by doing good works or by obeying the law, a person earns and merits salvation.
  - **Colloquial use:** Ignoring the Spirit of the Law, and its lawgiver.

**READ: 5:16-25**

**OBSERVATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Walk** by the Spirit and you will not carry out the **desire** of the flesh.

## WORD STUDY

“Peripateo” (4043): to walk... but what kind of walk? Saunter, wander, jaunt

“Stoicheo” (4748): to Walk orderly, march, or to follow.

“Epithuma” (1939) Desires, lust, impulsiveness.

- **Why chose this figurative language?**
  - Implies DIRECTION and a destination, or goal or purpose.
  - Requires effort and choice, but doesn’t say RUN.
  - It’s an everyday OCCURENCE, part of our daily EXISTENCE.

**small words, BIG idea:** Walking in the Spirit means to follow the PATH of Christ and to ORDER our daily life in such a way that the Holy Spirit has room to gradually change our DESIRES to match Christ's.

### The Method



### What are the sails? SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

POSITIONING ourselves near Christ, POSTURING in submission, is different than trying to be MORAL.

- SRIPTURE: reading, study, and memorization.
- FELLOWSHIP: accountability, service, and celebration.
- FASTING: food or other distractions.
- PRAYER: talk and listen (silence).
- GENEROSITY: treasure and time.
- We trust that the Spirit will move in our dedication to these areas.
- When we hoist the sails of Spiritual Discipline, our DESIRES are transformed, and the fruit of the Spirit is our natural REWARD and RESULT.

### Christian walk is this: **TRUST** and **OBEY**

- As I trust God by ORDERING my life around him, I know that he will PRODUCE obedience in my life.

**Conclusion:** Our story begins by a supernatural work and continues by the Holy Spirit's power.