

## DAY 15 – THE HOLY SPIRIT SANCTIFIES US

*“But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as first fruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.”*  
2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

**Sanctification, in its original meaning, refers to something that has been set apart or consecrated to God.**

So the question arises: *Set apart from what?* The necessary answer is: Set apart from sin to serve God. The new birth is the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. This work is immediate, as it cleanses our lives through the blood of Jesus Christ.

It is an instantaneous regenerating act that only God can perform—because no one can cleanse themselves from sin. This is why the apostle Paul states that before knowing Christ, we were dead in our trespasses and sins. When we are forgiven through the redemptive work of Jesus and receive the Holy Spirit, the believer’s life is immediately sanctified.

In the New Testament, sanctification involves a **wholehearted surrender** to an **intimate personal relationship with God** and being **governed by the Holy Spirit**.

Believers do not live the Christian life in their own strength or creativity. The Holy Spirit **dwells in them** and enables them to live at a level they could **never reach on their own**.

The Holy Spirit has made His **permanent home** in the believer.

His work is to make the lives of Christians **holy**. The predominant characteristic of every born-again person is a **pursuit of holiness**. This is not mechanical or magical—it is caused by the Spirit of God in **daily communion** with the believer. It is a **progressive growth in holiness**, increasing in spiritual capacity, character, and maturity in Christ.

He lives and works **in and through us**. The Holy Spirit works in us when we are **available** for Him to renew our minds and transform our entire being.

He is the **agent of control and guidance** for every regenerated person.

The sanctification of the believer is **God’s will**, and the Holy Spirit uses various means to sanctify us (1 Thess. 4:3; 1 Peter 1:2). We are sanctified through our **vital union with Christ**. In fact, we are sanctified **in Christ**, and **Christ is our sanctification** (1 Corinthians 1:2, 30).

**The Holy Spirit uses:**

The Word of God (John 17:17; 1 Timothy 4:5)

The blood of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:13; 13:12)

And the offering of Jesus’ body, made once for all (Hebrews 10:10)

**We are also sanctified by:**

The decisions we make (2 Timothy 2:21–22)

And faith in Christ (Acts 26:18)

### REFLECTION QUESTION:

**How can you collaborate with the Holy Spirit so that He continues sanctifying your life?**