

*The Light - Junior Series*  
*Lesson 127*

*Practical Sanctification*  
*The Old Man versus the New Man*

Old Adam Vs. New Man

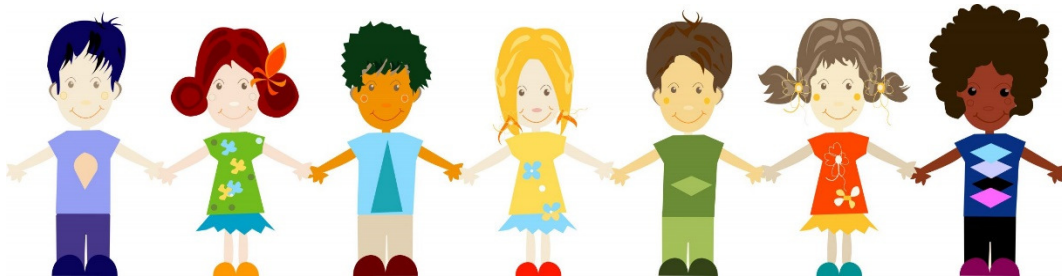


## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Just tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior, died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. (Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



## LESSON



Hi Kids. Last time we studied about how to be active every day in the Christian life.

Here are a couple of the verses that we studied last time in Col 3:5. These are commands from God. "Therefore, **think about** the parts of your earthly body as **dead to (these sins) immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry (loving too much the things that are NOT from God).**" Then again in Col 3:8-11 we were commanded by Jesus to put **all** the sins away: "But now (that you are believers) you also, **put them all away:** anger, nastiness, insults, and rude speech from your mouth. (9) **Do not lie** to one another, since you **put away the old man with its evil practices** (his deeds), (10) and **have put on the new man who is being renewed (changed) to a true knowledge (God's WORD) according to the image of the One (Jesus) who created him (the new man)** (11) a renewal (change) in which there is no difference between Greek (non-Jews) and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but **Jesus Christ is all, and in all.**"

We learned that we can now put away the sins in these verses, like lying to one another, **only** because we have the **new man** and the new man is being changed or renewed in our spiritual minds with the **true knowledge of God's Word** about who we really are **now** in Jesus.



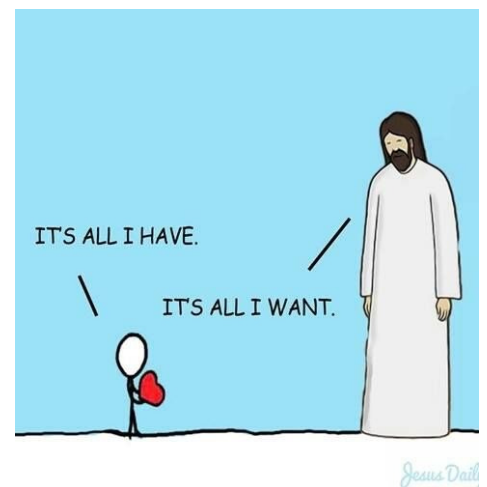
Now we're going to study that we are new creatures in Christ the moment we believed in Him. That's when we get the **new man and he's powered by the Holy Spirit and God's Word**. God gave us this new man, a spiritual man, so that we CAN obey the commands God and Jesus gave us. In other words, you have already put on this new man when you believed in Jesus and with it, it is the **ONLY**

WAY to obey these commands from Jesus. However, it doesn't automatically work. We have to learn how to use the new man...

It's who we are since Jesus and the Holy Spirit live in us. It's learning! It's learning from the Bible, from the New Testament letters especially the ones written by Paul. It's learning about who we are **now** as believers.

This is amazing, kids! Learning about our **NEW** man means knowing who we really are! And this allows us to obey Jesus and put away lying to one another, anger, nastiness, insults, and rude or hateful speech from our mouth. **Learning God's Word is what makes the difference**. It makes us be able to put away these sins.

This is our wonderful Savior, Jesus...beautiful, precious, perfect Jesus!! Love HIM, kids. That's what it takes. You learn to love Him by studying His **WORD!** Give Him your heart.



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So, how does that work? Well, here it is... Substitute the attitudes and behaviors of Jesus for the attitudes and behaviors of Adam, who gave us our old man...remember? We substitute the new man for the old man. We substitute what the Spirit tells us to do instead of what the old man or flesh tells us to do because now we have God's Word in our souls. The Holy Spirit makes us remember what God's Word tells us to do.

This is **VERY IMPORTANT!!!** You have to **choose every minute of every day to walk by means of the Holy Spirit**. It doesn't happen automatically!!!! Let the Holy Spirit guide you...He's your conscience.



Here's another way to look at it: we choose to substitute our new identity and new self-image as God's sons and daughters for that old identity and old self-image as a slave to our old man. Now that our slavery to our old man is over, it means we can have a very active spiritual life. We **CAN** obey Jesus and do these things but **NOT** without God's power and help.

It's His work and our walk. [Ephesians 2:10](#) "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works (our service to Jesus), which God prepared beforehand (sanctification) so that we would walk in them." God is at work in me as I walk the Christian life through the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. [Philip 2:12-13](#) "So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation (live the Christian life) with fear and trembling (so you please God); (13) for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure."

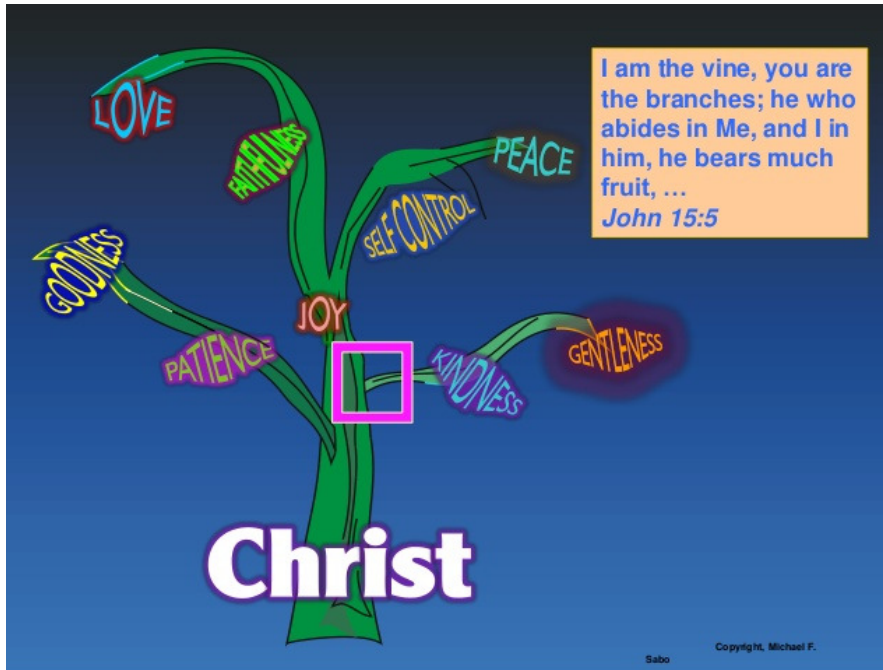
You can walk by means of the Holy Spirit, and not give into the desires of the flesh or the old man but only because the Holy Spirit battles against the flesh. [Galatians 5:16-17](#) "But I say, walk by the Holy Spirit, and you will not give into the desire of the flesh. (17) For the flesh sets its desire against the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit against the flesh; for these are against one another, so that you may not do the things that you please (sin)." There's a battle inside of you, kids! EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY!!! NO KIDDING!!!



God powers us up to act. Then we act. And yet even as we act, God is still at work right in the activity itself...what we are doing...powered by God.

It's just like a parent would, right? Like the handicapped child who finishes the marathon, in a wheelchair pushed by his father. The track star who fell and hurt himself, only to find his father by his side holding him up and helping him finish his race. That's GOD!!! He's our parent helping us live the Christian life.

Paul teaches us this really well in 1 Cor 15:9-10. "For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God (before he became a believer). (10) But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not come up empty; but I labored even more than all of them (the other 11 Apostles), yet not I, but the grace of God with me." God does the work, and we do the walk.



Remember, Jesus is the vine and we are the branches, and we are part of the vine. The Vine (Jesus) feeds or nourishes us so we can produce fruit!

We can do these things...live the Christian life, produce fruit... BECAUSE God does them in us by the power of the HOLY SPIRIT and God's Word.

The fruit of the Spirit is love...and so we are to serve one another through love. Gal 5:22-23a "But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, self-control...**" Gal 5:13 "For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh (sinning by the old man), but through love serve one another (live the Christian life like Jesus)."

Jesus is the head, and we are the body. Without Jesus we can DO NOTHING...none of the things we are commanded to do by Jesus. Yet we can DO what? ALL THINGS through Christ who strengthens us. Philip 4:13 "I can do all things through Him (Jesus) who strengthens me." Is that me, or is that Him? YES, it is! Do you get it yet?

The Apostle Paul describes the way this worked in him about a decision he made in his life, a practical decision and action in 2 Cor 1:15-22. "In this confidence I intended at first to come to you, so that you might twice receive a blessing; (16) that is, to pass your way into Macedonia, and again from Macedonia to come to you, and by you to be helped on my



journey to Judea. (17) Therefore, I was not hesitating when I intended to do this, was I? Or what I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh (the old man), so that with me there will be yes, yes and no, no at the same time? (18) But as **God is faithful**, our word to

you is not yes and no. (19) For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us — by me and Silvanus and Timothy — was not yes and no, **but is yes in Him**. (20) For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore, also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us. (21) Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, (22) who also sealed us and gave us the (Holy) Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.” You see it really is our activity. It is ultimately our choice. It is a decision that was made and powered totally by the Lord. He clears the path and we walk through it.

For you football fans, it is sort of like what the offensive linemen do for a running back. The line clears a hole, the quarterback hands the ball to him and he runs, runs, runs through that hole!



Before we were born again there was this huge, really, really high wall that we could NEVER walk through at all. But now the wall has been demolished and Jesus is on the other side. He’s going to walk with us. But we still do the walking. And we need to keep getting our spiritual mind changed or renewed with Bible learning because

that is what lets you to win these battle victories.



The Word of God is alive and powerful. The Word of God, the sword of the Holy Spirit, attacks those old ways in you that have kept you as slaves to the sins of your flesh and this ugly world.

FREEDOM!!! The Word of God breaks those chains! 2 Cor 10:3-5 "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, (4) for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses (the old man). (5) We are destroying opinions and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..." See how active all this is and how it expects actions on our part? We are taking every thought we have and obeying Jesus with them.

**BUT all of this** depends on God's divine power...the Holy Spirit and God's divine and powerful weapon...the Word! We CANNOT do or be any of this without it. Only believers have this, kids. Unbelievers are still slaves to their flesh, their old man. Col 3:12-17 "So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;** (13) bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. (14) Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. (15) Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. (16) **Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you,** with all wisdom teaching and warning one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with **thankfulness** in your hearts to God. (17) Whatever you do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,** giving thanks through Him to God the Father."

It's so cool and unreal that this everyday work we must do, is done with God and the Holy Spirit teaming up to do battle for us!!! This power you have is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!!! AWESOME, right?

Remember, this is so we can put away anger and replace it with compassion; put away wrath and replace it with kindness;



put away nastiness and replace it with humility; put away insults and replace it with gentleness; put away hateful or rude speech and replace it with patience and remember what God's Word taught you so you can obey Jesus. This happens by taking away our old thinking and replacing it with our new thinking from God's Holy Word...the TRUTH...our Bible that changes us into soldiers for Jesus.



This is real work going on inside **real you** and real me and we have a part to play in it! The first part we play is to let the Word of God live richly inside of us...in our souls. That is how our sanctification or our participation begins. We were set apart by God to do these things. But I want you to notice how much the Lord in [Colossians chapter 3](#) calls us to be active! Read it again in the beginning of the lesson.

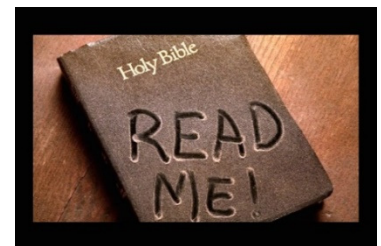
And that brings us to the question for this day: practical sanctification: is it the Holy Spirit's work or yours? Remember, the answer is: YES! Meaning it's BOTH. It's the grace of God and our answer to the grace of God, which is our participation in His grace. We see this with the putting off and putting on in Paul's letters.

It's so interesting that there are differences between the putting off and putting on in [Colossians](#), on the one hand, and the putting off and putting on in [Ephesians](#), on the other.

We are going to get into this in our next lesson so...

Until next time, stay in God's Word.

Close in prayer.



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