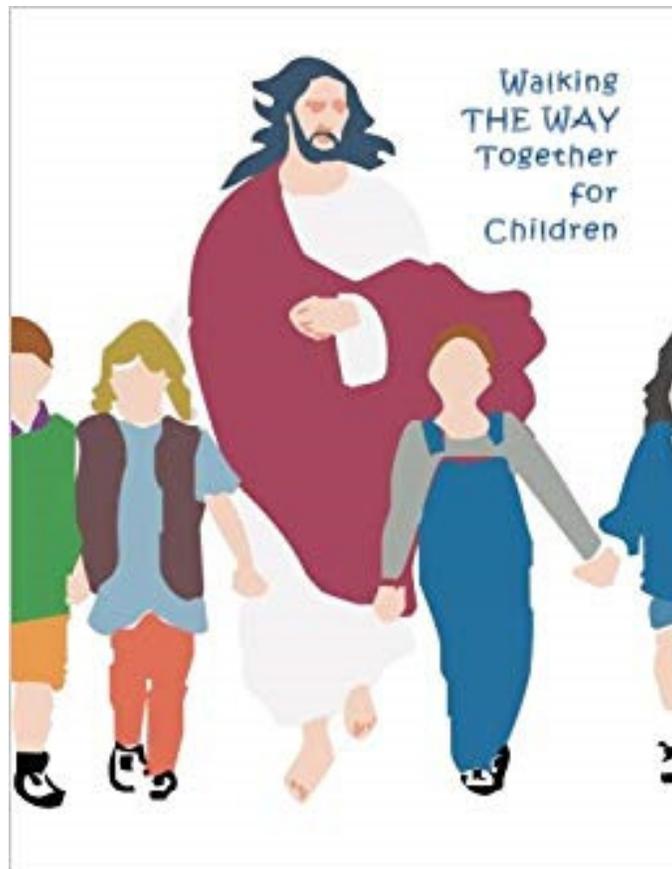


The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 126

Practical Sanctification
Active & Set Apart for God's Purpose



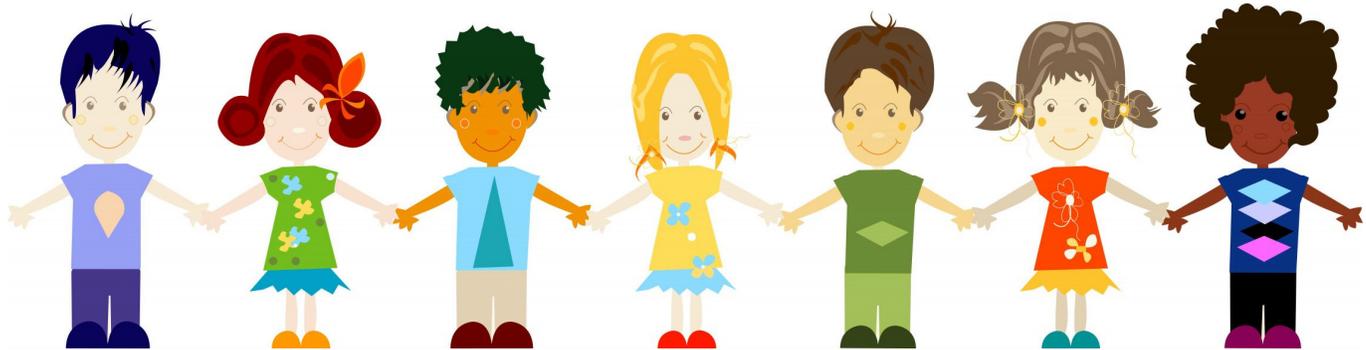
2019

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 us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



LESSON



Hi kids. We here at Lighthouse Bible Church hope you had a wonderful Resurrection Day celebration. It is the greatest gift God the Father gave us when He raised Jesus from the dead after He paid the penalty for all our sins. It is the greatest because God did away with death once and for all when He raised Jesus! Our sins were forgiven at the cross, Jesus died and was raised so that we who believe in Him will be alive with Jesus forever and ever wherever He is! NEVER FORGET THIS!

So, now we're back to our lesson and study in Practical Sanctification. Let's review what "sanctification" or "to be sanctified" in the Lord means. To be sanctified in the Lord is to be **active in your spiritual life**. It means we are **set apart for a purpose by God** to be useful to the Master, Jesus Christ. It is our **service to Him**, who by the way deserves ALL our praise and glory.

We have been working on how to live our Christian life every day, which is our sanctification. Today let's find out more about sanctification or the way we are to live the Christian life. We'll start in **Col 3:1-4**. "Therefore,

if you have been raised up with Christ (and you have been), **keep seeking** the things above (heavenly things), where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. (2) **Set your mind** on the things above (heavenly things), not on the things that are on earth. (3) For you have died (with Christ on the cross) and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (4) When Christ, who is our life, is revealed (to us at the Rapture when we meet the Lord in the air), then you also will be revealed with Him in glory (we will receive our resurrection bodies at that moment and be just like Jesus and with Him forever and ever)."

Realize, kids, that we have choices to make every day to be active for Jesus...to be able to live our Christian life.

We know that our heavenly Father wants us to act more and more in keeping with His plans because He has made us His sons and daughters when we believed in Jesus.



Just as **Ephesians 4** starts out, we are urged to "walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called by God our Father."



So, how do we do that? How does that work? And how do we make sure that it lines up with all those wonderful blessings that are true and always will be true about us in Jesus? We need to learn more about how to **walk, run, fight, and grow spiritually** as God's children. And we know that we have been blessed with all the blessings we need to live a life pleasing to God.

Let's learn more from God's WORD about how to USE those wonderful blessings God the Father gave us in Jesus.



Let's begin with Jesus, sitting at the right hand of God the Father because as you know, kids, that is where Jesus is NOW.

Our lesson, which is in **Colossians 3** teaches us that we must be **active** in our Christian life...our practical sanctification. Remember **to be sanctified means to be active or set apart for a purpose...to serve Jesus and others in our everyday walk. This is pleasing to the Lord.** Jesus begs us to be active in our Christian life. He prays for us to be active in it and to live and walk in the way He wants you to live and walk. This is all good!

So, what does it look like to be **active for the Lord**? Well it's made up of a lot of things. We already saw what it looks like in **Colossians** chapter 3. Let's look at it again: "Therefore, if you have been raised up with Jesus Christ (and you have been), **keep seeking** the things above (heavenly things), where Jesus Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God (the Father). (2) **Set your mind** on the things above (heavenly things), not on the things that are on earth. (3) For you have died (with Jesus Christ on the cross) and your life is hidden with Jesus Christ in God (the Father). (4) When Jesus Christ, who is our life, is revealed (to us at the Rapture when we meet the Him in the air), then you also will be revealed with Him in glory (we will receive our resurrection bodies at that moment and be just like Jesus and be with Him forever and ever)." For now, here in the first few verses, notice that we are **keep seeking or looking for** the heavenly things above.



This means that we are to keep trying to seek for these heavenly things every day. It's called determination to do what the God's Word tells us to do. It calls for us to decide over and over again in good days or bad; days full of distractions; through troubles and unhappiness, as well as excitement and fun.

No matter what's happening on any day, you keep seeking the heavenly things that please Jesus.



So, how do we do that?

If we wanted to set our mind on the things on earth, there would be plenty of ways to do that. Plenty of places to go, people to see, books to read, video games to play.



But the things above, where Jesus Christ is...the **ONLY WAY to set our mind on these things** is to have our mind renewed or changed from the Word of God living richly in us...in our souls. That by the way, is where God's Word goes when we study it and believe it. We must keep our mind concentrating on the things that have been taught to us in our Bible study about Jesus in heaven. And for **THAT** we have no other **choice** but to spend time **every day** on the writings in the Bible that tell us things about Jesus in heaven.

Writings like **Romans 8. Ephesians. Colossians. Philippians. Hebrews.** SET OUR MIND on the things above, not the things on earth. This includes energy and purpose because you see, the way we are naturally or in our flesh, all we want to do is set our mind on the things on earth.



There is a really BIG fight in the life of every Christian about where he or she will set her mind...on heavenly things or things on earth! Remember we have choices to make every minute of every day!



In God's Word it tells us that we are born "totally depraved". It's a big word that means WICKED!!! This is NOT good! So, we better see what this is all about. Let's learn what the Bible scriptures tell us about what "depraved" means and why it says we are born that way.

Look at the following verses that include "depraved" in them: **Rom 1:28-31** "And just as they (unbelievers) did not see fit to accept God any longer, God gave them over to a **depraved mind (wicked mind)**, to do those things which are not proper (against God), (29) being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, fighting, deceit, nastiness; they are gossips, (30) backbiters, haters of God, rude, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, (31) without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful..."

1 Tim 6:3-5 "If anyone supports a different doctrine (God's Word...the Bible) and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming (obeying) to godliness, (4) he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, fighting, abusive language, evil suspicions, (5) and constant friction between men of **depraved mind** and withdrew from the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain."

2 Tim 3:6-9 "For among them are those who enter into homes and hypnotize weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various desires, (7) always learning and never able to come to the knowledge (understanding) of the truth (because they do NOT believe in Jesus). (8) Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of **depraved mind**, rejected in regard to the faith. (9) But they will not make further progress; for their foolishness will be obvious to all, just as Jannes's and Jambres's foolishness was also."



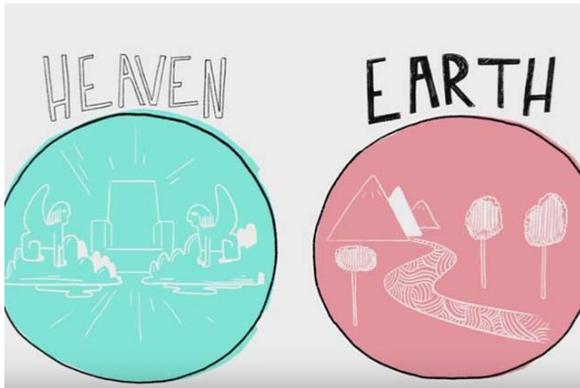
Before we believed in Jesus, we had a depraved or wicked mind set against God and all that God stood for. We were born that way. Remember that when Adam disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, he sinned against God and fell away from God. Since we all came from Adam, we inherited his sinfulness. That's why we are all born unbelievers...with depraved or wicked minds. Thank God Jesus came to

save us!

So, now as believers in Jesus, we need to work hard, focus, discipline our minds, and renew them EVERY DAY by studying God's Word. We MUST set our minds on Jesus, on the things above, first. It must be our priority...the most important thing we do every day.



Did you know that in the whole human race there are two minds? Yes, minds that seek and think about Jesus and the things above and minds that do NOT and only think about the things on earth.



This is true and you must understand that this is why the Lord in His Word **KEEPS TELLING** us to **ALWAYS** think or set our minds on the things of **JESUS!** Col 3:1-2 "Therefore, if you have been raised up with Jesus Christ (and you have been), **keep seeking** the things above, where Jesus is, sitting at the right hand of God (the Father). (2) **Set your mind** on the things above, not on the things that are on earth."

Now look carefully because there is something different when we reach **Col 3:5**. Back to our **earthly body**. Back to our daily lives...our everyday routines at home, school, playing sports, and at church, and the world trying to make us sin..."Therefore **think about** the parts of your earthly body as **dead to (sin) immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry (loving too much the things that are NOT from God).**" Guess what? Here it is!

The difference here is that as Christians, God's children, you don't have to give into those things your flesh or the world tempts you with because Jesus set you free from being a slave to your flesh and the bad things of the world when you believed in Him. Why? Because notice here in our verse **Col 3:5** how the cross is always in our daily walk. That's because of the **HOLY SPIRIT** who lives inside our earthly bodies reminds us from God's Word in our souls that we **DO NOT** have to give into sin from our bodies or the world. Now that's God's power for you and me.



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from God).

So, kids, set your mind on Jesus Christ. Then think about what He brings to your daily life (power and blessing) to **say NO to sin** from your earthly bodies and the world. This is being **active** in our lives. This is your practical sanctification. You see, **think about** the members of your earthly body as **dead to (sin) immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry (loving too much the things that are NOT**

As Christians, this is our **ACTIVITY**. This is our **WORK**. This includes walking, running, yes walking away from sin and running away from sin by the power of the Holy Spirit who lives inside your earthly body! See here's the problem: the parts of your earthly body don't think they were dead to sin. They think they are still alive to sin: immorality and impurity and greed and so forth but as you have learned that is **NOT TRUE!** You are free from slavery to sin.



There's been an **INVASION**, an invasion led by the **NEW** mind from God's Word: the mind of Jesus Christ, the mind of the Holy Spirit in you. **AN** invasion into territory your old mind had: the mind of the flesh.

Hey, kids, it's a battle, which is why the Christian life is said to sometimes be a fight. And it is! It's the **HOLY SPIRIT** versus the mind of the flesh, your old man that was crucified on the cross with Jesus!!!



Remember, we still do sin so we need the Holy Spirit to fight for us **EVERYDAY** and He does!! You are free! **1 Tim 6:11-12** **"But run away from these things (sins), you man of God (Christian), and chase after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, determination and gentleness. (12) Fight the good fight of faith; grab hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession (belief in Jesus) in the presence of many witnesses (God the Father, Jesus, and all the angels)."** Again kids, see how **active** this all is: **run away, chase, fight and grab hold.**

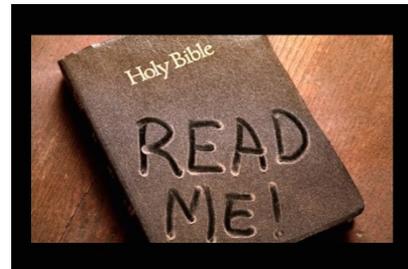


OK, now let's go further into Col 3:6-11. "For it is because of these things (the sins mentioned in Col 3:5) that the anger of God will come upon the sons of disobedience (all unbelievers who **REFUSE** to believe in Jesus Christ), (7) and in them (sins) you also once walked (when you were unbelievers), when you were living in them (sins). (8) But now you also, **put them all away:** anger, nastiness, insults, and abusive 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 to a true knowledge (God's **WORD**) according to the image of the One (Jesus) who created him (the new

man) (11) a renewal 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." So, you see here we get detailed commands from God to put away anger, nastiness, insults, and abusive speech from our mouths and we are commanded not to lie to one another.

Now even though we are seeing how active we will be in our practical sanctification we must never forget about the grace of God in all this. It is God's GRACE that gives us the power by the Holy Spirit to put all these things away.

Until next time...stay in God's Word.



Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on 4-17-2016
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