

Mar 23 Sanctification Through Relationship and the Work of the Holy Spirit

Holiness Is Not Willpower — It Is God's Transforming Presence

Many believers think sanctification simply means “*don't sin.*” But if our spiritual life is built only on “don't,” it becomes dry, fearful, and exhausting. Biblical sanctification is not merely avoiding sin — it is pursuing God. Holiness is not resisting sin by willpower; it is being drawn to God by love.

Sanctification is not a self-improvement. It is the ongoing work of God's presence shaping us from the inside out.

Sanctification Begins With Relationship, Not Rules

Holiness grows where relationship with God is alive. Jesus did not say, “Try harder to be holy.” He said, “*Abide in Me... apart from Me you can do nothing*” (John 15:4–5). Abiding is relational — staying close, staying connected, staying responsive.

When holiness becomes a checklist, we end up discouraged. When holiness becomes communion with God, we end up transformed.

Scripture consistently shows that transformation flows from relationship:

- “*Beholding the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed... by the Spirit*” (2 Corinthians 3:18).
- “*Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you*” (James 4:8).
- “*Those who look to Him are radiant*” (Psalm 34:5).

We become like the One we spend time with. Holiness is the overflow of nearness.