

## 2 Timothy 2:20-21 (NKJV)

*But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*



Lesson  
**ONE**

# Useful to the Master

## Discussion >>>

- 1. What makes us want to disobey when we find out what the rules are?*
- 2. How is the process of sanctification both similar and different from salvation?*
- 3. Share how God sanctified you from a particular stronghold in your life.*
- 4. What is the “righteous requirement of the Law,” to which Romans 8:4 refers?*

“Unclean! Unclean! Unclean!” Illias yelled, waking himself as he yelled into the night. Wide-eyed and heart-racing, he realized he was dreaming. His mind had taken him back to a little more than a week before, when like every other day for the last 20 years, he covered his face and yelled the traditional warning to those who approached. It was before Christ had placed his hand on his head and miraculously healed his leprosy. He shook his head to clear his thoughts and reminded himself that he was free, no longer isolated and dirty. Today was a new day, he would be able to enter the temple courts and offer his worship. Jesus had made him clean, purified, set apart, useful to The Master.

As Leviticus 14 details, the cleansing of a healed leper was a lengthy process. It was one that removed the stigma of disease and death that every leper knew well. Even though the instant Jesus’ healing touch came in contact with his diseased skin, the disease was gone, he was not fully free to offer himself up in worship until he was declared by the priest to be cleansed.

We are much like this leper when we come to Christ, and he heals our “diseased” hearts. There are years of sin and scars that can still plague our minds, trying to pull us back into sin and isolation, away from our Savior. After salvation, a believer has the opportunity to enter into a time of cleansing. This cleansing is different from the lepers in that it instantly does its work of washing us clean yet continues with daily

5. *Describe what changes you saw in yourself after you accepted Christ and what initiated those changes.*
6. *Why does the Spirit have to sanctify us daily? Is the first time not enough?*
7. *What does Acts 26:18 mean by sanctification “turning us from darkness to light?”*
8. *What happens to the believer who never receives sanctification?*

purification throughout our life. Every day that we dedicate to walking with Jesus is another day that he continues to cleanse us, until we meet our Lord face to face. This cleansing or “sanctification” from the sin nature is a work of the Holy Spirit in us. As we yield to Him, the Spirit daily removes our desire for sin and crucifies our human tendency to disobey God’s Word.

Our pastor spoke this morning about the putting away of the Law, when Christ’s sacrifice replaced the Law of sin and death. Because of the new covenant birthed through His blood, the Holy Spirit can accomplish in us what the Law was powerless to do. We can be free from condemnation because we can be free of the power of sin. Its power is broken by the sanctifying work of the Spirit. When the Spirit is alive in us, the Law of God is written on our hearts instead of on tablets of stone, or ink on a page. God’s Word becomes part of who we are, not just religious regulation. We obey not out of fear of punishment from disobeying the Law, but we obey out of love for a Savior who took the punishment of the Law on our behalf.

The International Pentecostal Holiness Church Manual states in its 10<sup>th</sup> Article of Faith, “We believe in sanctification. While sanctification is initiated in regeneration and consummated in glorification, we believe it includes a definite, instantaneous work of grace achieved by faith subsequent to regeneration (Acts 26:18; 1 John 1:9). Sanctification delivers from the power and dominion of sin. It is followed by lifelong growth in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 4:16; 2 Peter 3:18).” We accept the biblical view of sanctification being both an instantaneous work of grace in the believer and an ongoing work that does not end until we reach Heaven and look our Heavenly Father in the face. Won’t that be a glorious day!