

Growth Track Two

201: Biblical Foundations for Living

Session 8: Living Biblically

Overview: This session is intended to wrap up the series. Students will go on a journey to understand the levels of relationship with God that are available to us. They will see a Biblical illustration of what living with a Biblical Worldview looks like.

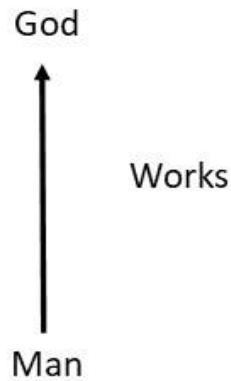
I am Saved by Grace.

1. Salvation is not earned by works, but given by grace.

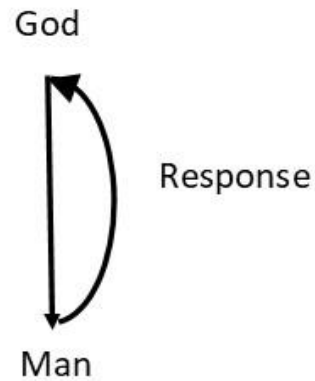
Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

Romans 5:6-8 NCV When we were unable to help ourselves, at the moment of our need, Christ died for us, although we were living against God. Very few people will die to save the life of someone else. Although perhaps for a good person someone might possibly die. But God shows his great love for us in this way: Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

False Religions



Christianity



2. God's grace is available to everyone.

Joel 2:28 NIV I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions...Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

I am Sanctified by Truth

1. Available to use for every good work.

2 Timothy 2:21 NLT If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.

2. Enabled to overcome the principle of sin.

Romans 7:15-17 NIV *I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do...it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.*

John 17:17 NKJV *Sanctify them by Your Truth. Your Word is Truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.*

3. The two dynamics of sanctification

a. The finished work of being made holy.

1 Corinthians 1:30 NCV *Because of God you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God. In Christ we are put right with God, and have been made holy, and have been set free from sin.*

b. The daily process of becoming holy.

Ephesians 4:13 NCV *This work must continue until we are all joined together in the same faith and in the same knowledge of the Son of God. We must become like a mature person, growing until we become like Christ and have His perfection.*

I am Empowered by the Holy Spirit

1. What the Holy Spirit does for us.

- a. He convicts us of our sins.

John 16:7-8 NIV But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment...

- b. He guides us to Truth.

John 16:13 NIV But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.

John 15:26 NIV When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

- c. He comforts us in our distress.

John 14:16-19 NIV I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

d. He prays for us in our weakness.

Romans 8:26-27 NIV *The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.*

e. He empowers us as we serve.

- Jesus' ministry was anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Luke 4:18-19 NIV *The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

- Paul's ministry began after being filled with the Spirit.

Acts 9:17-19 NCV *So Ananias went to the house of Judas. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus sent me. He is the one you saw on the road on your way here. He sent me so that you can see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately, something that looked like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he was able to see again! Then Saul got up and was baptized.*

- Paul prayed we would all live in the Holy Spirit's power.

Romans 15:13 NIV *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

2. Why should I be baptized in the Holy Spirit?

- a. The early believers were instructed not to start until baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:3-5 NIV After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

- b. All believers are instructed to make that choice.

Ephesians 5:18 NIV Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

- c. How can I be filled?

- Lord, I am hungry for you.

Matthew 5:6 NIV Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

John 7:37-38 NLT If you are thirsty, come to me! If you believe in me, come and drink! For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water will flow out from within.

- Lord, I believe you want this for me.

Luke 11:11-13 NIV *Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

- Lord, I accept the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1 John 5:14-15 NIV *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.*

A Prophetic Illustration of Living Biblically:

Ezekiel 47:1 NIV *The man brought me back to the entrance to the temple, and I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar.*

² *He then brought me out through the north gate and led me around the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was trickling from the south side.*

³ *As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle-deep.*

- ^{4a} *He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep.*
- ^{4b} *He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist.*
- ⁵ *He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—a river that no one could cross.*
- ⁶ *He asked me, “Son of man, do you see this?” Then he led me back to the bank of the river.*
- ⁷ *When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river.*
- ⁸ *He said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Dead Sea. When it empties into the sea, the salty water there becomes fresh.*
- ⁹ *Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live.*
- ¹⁰ *Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds—like the fish of the Mediterranean Sea.*
- ¹¹ *But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt.*

¹² *Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing.*

Discussion:

1. Joel 2:28 says: *Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.* Briefly describe when you did that for the first time. (NOTE: If you haven't done it yet, don't wait! He's anxiously waiting to hear from you!)
2. The Bible describes two dynamics of sanctification as having a "starting point" at which you ask Jesus to be in charge of your life, followed by a "daily process." Would you describe yourself as
1) needing to ask Jesus to be in charge, 2) just recently asked; or
3) growing in understanding of that commitment? Why?
3. Taking a risk to be transparent, would you describe your daily life as more influenced by the "spirits of this world" or by the Holy Spirit? Why?