**It’s Thrive Time Podcast Teaching Notes**

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**Series:** Determined and Intentional Thriving In Perilous Times

**Lesson** 5: A Determined and Intentional Disciple Lives the Sanctified Life

**Text:** John 17, Joshua 3

John 17 KJV

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. [14](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-17-14/)I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

**16**They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**17**Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

**19**And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

**20**Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

**21**That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

**13**And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

**14**I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**15**I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

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**A determined and intentional disciple is sanctified by God and sanctifies themselves-**

**Sanctification defined:** We are sanctified at the moment of salvation because of what Jesus did for us. But, it is also refers to the progressive work of God as He molds us to look more like Jesus in all that we do and say.

Think of it this way: If we are sick and go to the doctor and find out the problem, the doctor prescribes a treatment- usually medication. Getting better is not immediately after that first pill but healing is for the most part of process (there are times when God does heal instantly). When we come to come to Jesus with our sin, He provides the treatment, which is salvation! We don’t have it all together at that very moment, but as we continue to walk in our prescription, we see the transformation.

**Transformation defined:**

First, let’s look at how the Merriam-Webster dictionary defines *transformation:*“A complete or major change in someone or something’s appearance, form.”

People use the word *transformation* to talk about the remodeling of a house, or when someone gets a makeover. The house or person undergoes a major change and ends up looking different.

It’s understandable to think that transformation for Christians means we improve ourselves or our behavior so we appear more “Christ-like.”

But the biblical meaning of transformation has nothing to do with our outward behavior or self-improvement. In the Bible *transformation* means “change or renewal from a life that no longer conforms to the ways of the world to one that pleases God” ([Romans 12:2](https://www.bibleref.com/Romans/12/Romans-12-2.html)). This is accomplished by the renewing of our minds, an inward spiritual transformation that will manifest itself in outward actions. The Bible presents the transformed life in Christ as demonstrated through our “bearing fruit in every good work [and] growing in the knowledge of God” ([Colossians 1:10](https://www.bibleref.com/Colossians/1/Colossians-1-10.html)). Transformation involves those who were once far from God being “drawn near” to Him through the blood of Christ ([Ephesians 2:13](https://www.bibleref.com/Ephesians/2/Ephesians-2-13.html)).

God knows that we can’t meet the standard in His Word on our own. Had we been able to meet all of His requirements, there would have never been a need for Jesus to go to the cross.

**2 Corinthians 3:18:**

“But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are** **being transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.”

**It is like a cocoon- over time the change is happening and we don’t even see it, but then one day this beautiful butterfly emerges from an ugly cocoon! Our sanctification doesn’t happen through striving….it comes through abiding. (John 15)**

An easy definition that we can readily understand: we are set apart for specific purposes.  **However, we must remember; we are set apart to God not a task or a ministry. Those things are the fruit of us being set apart to God.**

**Can we sanctify ourselves?** - There is a two-fold responsibility in this type of sanctification: We are commanded to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. **Philippians 2:12-13.**

Here we see that God does the work and we participate in this process by living a life of obedience, continually turning away from sin and turning to the voice of the Holy Spirit and being led by Him.

**What does sanctified life look like?**

Knowledge of God’s will

Spiritual wisdom and understanding

Obedience

Fruitfulness

Ever deepening relationship with God

Ability to persevere

A joyful and grateful heart

Authority- acting in the name for Jesus

**After this part of the teaching, we should consider getting with the Holy Spirit and allow Him to evaluate and we should consent to His prescription.**

Are we manifesting His name? If not, whose name are we manifesting. Manifesting defined: meaning “to reveal” or “make famous” the name of Jesus

**Joshua 3**

First, it is important to understand that Joshua 3 could not be carried out until Joshua was faithful in obeying Joshua 1. Joshua built up his faith by obeying Joshua 1, he therefore had faith to obey what we are about to read about.

**Often, we are wanting God to give us more, more specifics but God needs us to walk in the basic, the general before He will advance us to the specifics. He who is faithful in little will be faithful in much. Can God trust us to obey the little?**

Here again, we see God lay out the plan and it is an interesting plan, not a plan that we would come up with in the flesh. And, not only could they not devise such a plan in the flesh, but they were utterly helpless in successfully accomplishing it! However, let’s look at how this story begins.

**God’s plans will always be greater than your ability. He wants us to glorify Him in all that we do and signs and wonders are worked through us by His power. If you think “I got this, God”, you better check the instructions He gave you again, His plans for you always include Him doing what you cannot do.**

Vs 7: And the Lord said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.  **When God magnifies us, it is not for our glory and we must reject any of that. When God chooses to magnify us it is because He wants reveal His glory. We are to manifest His name….Manifest His Name! Whose name are you manifesting!!**

They arrived at the Jordan and were told, by God, to lodge there 3 days. 3 days in front of a rushing river where the water had come up over the banks. This was a spring time when the snow from the mountains was melting and would flow down and flood the river.

**What do you imagine them saying/ thinking these 3 days?**

**Why do you think God may have them wait 3 days?**

**When God has said “I’m going to do this, but not yet”, what has been your response?**

God told them to sanctify themselves for tomorrow He was going to do a great thing among them!  **What did that mean for them to “sanctify themselves”?** David Platt says this: “Lay your lives down before God, set apart your lives for Him, completely, wholly, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you”. They had to be heart ready, meaning get rid of the junk in their mind, **their**  mouth, their eyes, their ears, their hands and feet! Anything that was contaminating their relationship with God. They also had to be physically ready. Sometimes, God calls us and we are so weighed down with things of this world that we can’t move when God calls us to move.

**Are we doing this?**

**How does God sanctify believers?**

1. **The Word of God- John 17:17, John 15:3 - The Word exposes who God is and we are**
2. **The work of Holy Spirit - Gal 5:22-23, I Peter 1:2, Romans 8:13, I Thes 5:23**
3. **The fellowship of believers- II Tim 2:22, Hebrews 10:24**

**Are you sanctifying yourself in order that God may work and do great things in you and through you?**

The priests led the way carrying the ark of the covenant- Why did the priests lead? - I believe this signifies that this was a spiritual battle for them. It wasn’t primarily a physically weak weary people- it was a faith weary people. The Ark symbolizes God’s presence and it wasn’t in the middle, or behind, it was way out in front so everyone would and could follow

What did the Ark of the Covenant represent- It represented God. God’s presence would lead the way.

Why did they have to have a certain distance between them and the Ark? 2000 cubits (about 1/2 mile) 1.). The Ark of the Covenant was Holy, 2.) So that everyone on that journey through the Jordan could see it and be reminded of the Lord’s presence.

**Are our eyes on the circumstances we are facing, or are we living in the presence of our God?**

The priests had to put their foot into the water before the waters would part. They had to obey and they had to believe God.

When they obeyed by putting their foot in the water, without delay God parted those waters and they all walked over on dry ground.

God will fight our battles but we have to demonstrate faith - Their faith was demonstrated by putting that foot into the water, believing God would do exactly as He said.

**Are we only talking “faith” or are we walking faith? If we aren’t walking it, then we are living in mental assent, not faith.**

Mental Assent defined: In essence, mental assent agrees with the Bible, agrees with God, but does not believe or have faith in God or His Word for them personally.