

## THE NEW NORMAL #12

### “God’s New Normal”

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In this series I’ve been examining issues in our culture that have emerged and tried to make sense of them from a Biblical perspective. We are living in a season where there are many changes on the horizon that will lead to a new normal, but nobody knows what the new normal will be. One of the things that God’s people must never lose sight of is that God has a new normal in mind for his people. With every passing day we are coming one step closer to realizing God’s new normal. In today’s teaching I’ll be discussing the process that God is taking us through to arrive at his new normal.

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#### #1. WHAT IS SANCTIFICATION?

- A. The Greek word for sanctification - *hagiasmos*
- B. Phase one – positional sanctification, 1 Cor 1:2, 30, 6:9-11
- C. Phase two – progressive sanctification, Phil 2:12-16, 1 Thess 4:3
- D. Phase three – perfected sanctification, Rom 8:29-30

#### #2. OUR PART IN SANCTIFICATION, Phil 2:12

- A. Keep obeying in Paul’s absence
- B. Continue to work out your salvation (sanctification)
- C. In fear & trembling
- D. Paul is speaking to the entire church
- E. Each person must do his part
- F. Being Spirit filled is essential, Eph 5:18, Gal 5:16f

#### #3. GOD’S PART IN SANCTIFICATION, Phil 2:13

- A. God is at work in you
- B. God works to will
- C. God works to act
- D. God works to fulfill his good purpose

#### #4. THE EVIDENCE OF SANCTIFICATION, Phil 2:14-16

- A. Stop grumbling & arguing, v. 14
- B. Be blameless & pure, v. 15
- C. Children of God without fault, v. 15
- D. In a warped & crooked generation, v. 15
- E. Shine like stars among the world, v. 15
- F. Hold out the word of life, v. 16
- G. The fruit of the Spirit, Gal 5:22-23

#### #5. THE NEW NORMAL IS GLORIFICATION, Phil 3:20-21

- A. We will be conformed to the image of Christ
- B. We will be in a glorified body
- C. We will no longer struggle with sin
- D. We will be living in perfection

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### TODAY’S SCRIPTURE

**Philippians 2:12-16:** Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. <sup>14</sup>Do everything without complaining or arguing, <sup>15</sup>so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe <sup>16</sup>as you hold out the word of life-- in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

**1 Corinthians 1:2:** To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ-- their Lord and ours:

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11:** Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders <sup>10</sup>nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Hillcrest Church

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-7:** Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. <sup>2</sup>For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup>It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup>that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup>not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; <sup>6</sup>and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. <sup>7</sup>For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

**Romans 8:29-30:** For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

**Galatians 5:16-26:** So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. <sup>17</sup>For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. <sup>19</sup>The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup>idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup>and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

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

**Philippians 3:20-21:** But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup>who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

- #1. What does the word sanctification mean?
- #2. Discuss the believer's role in sanctification.
- #3. Discuss God's role in sanctification?
- #4. Why is God's role dominant in Sanctification?
- #5. Some people will be more sanctified than others. Why is this the case?
- #6. In what way is sanctification a corporate matter?
- #7. What are some of the practices that believers must engage in to facilitate their sanctification?
- #8. Why is the filling of the Holy Spirit crucial to the believer's sanctification? Eph 5:18
- #9. What is the evidence of a sanctified life?
- #10. In what way(s) are the works of the flesh contrary to the fruit of the Spirit? (Galatians 5:16-26)
- #11. What is your takeaway from this teaching?