



**The Wheel of Faith
Bible Study Guides
Lesson #9
“The Worst 15 Minutes of my Life”**

The **Wheel of Faith** does not end at Justification. Justification makes it possible for the rest of the Gospel to take place. Therefore, the next step on the **Wheel of Faith** is technically not a step; but rather, it is a result. But for simplicity’s sake, let’s take our next step!

1. Read Acts 2:38

“Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins: and you will receive the gift of the _____.”

a. What is another term for receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit?

- Read **Hebrews 10:14**

“For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are _____.”

- The Greek word Hagios: **ἅγιος** means holy, holiness, and it is also the same word for Sanctification. Therefore, the term Holy Spirit could also be translated as the Sanctifying Spirit. And Sanctification or Holiness simply means to be ‘set apart’.

b. Read these texts:

- **2 Corinthians 6:17**

*Wherefore **come out from among them**, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you.*

- **Ephesians 4:24**

And that ye put on the _____, which after God is created in _____ and true _____.

- The Gospel is teaching us that as soon as we are justified by faith having gone through the steps of faith, and choosing to be buried with Him in baptism (being dead), then as we begin that new way of life, symbolized by coming up out of the watery grave, God sends us the Holy Spirit to actually begin the process of making us new creations.

Discuss: Ephesians 4:23-32, 5:1-20.

- What do you see the process of sanctification accomplishing in the believer’s life?
- Can someone who is justified by faith stay in their old sinful ways?
- If you are not being sanctified, could that mean that you were not really justified?
- If a person is not experiencing a sanctified life, where on the **Wheel of Faith** do you think they might be stuck?

2. When does the process of Sanctification begin?

- There are some who teach that Sanctification can be a delayed event. Meaning it usually happens sometime in the future when you really want it. The old Holiness Movements of the late 18th century taught this. They believed that you had to go through a “garden experience” or a “second blessing”, as it was sometimes called. Then after really praying, fasting, weeping and begging for the Spirit, it might come to you.
- **Read 2 Corinthians 5:17**

“Therefore, if anyone ___ in Christ, he ___ a new creation; old things have passed away: behold, all things have become new.”

A person could not be any more in Christ than at baptism. Remember Paul’s words in **Romans 6:3**, *“as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death. Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead, by the glory of the Father, even so we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”*

This is why rebaptism might be a vital issue for you because you can’t receive the new life until the old one has been buried in death! But the great news is if you have done that, then the promise from God is, I will, at that moment, send you the Holy Spirit into your heart, and you will become a new person.

a. Here is another way of looking at it. **Discuss** this quote:

“We can be fitted for Heaven only through the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart; for we must have Christ's righteousness as our credentials if we would find access to the Father.”

- What does “being fitted for Heaven” mean?
- Who fits us?
- What must we have before we can be fitted?
- How do we obtain that for which we need to be fitted?

Answer: In Christian circles it has been stated that our title for Heaven comes through Christ’s justifying Righteousness that we receive by faith, or the first six steps on the **Wheel of Faith**. Our fitness for Heaven is a

reference to the process of Sanctification, which are the last two steps on the **Wheel of Faith**. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to transform us or fit us; but before we can be fitted up, we must have the Righteousness of Christ as our credential. Meaning, that the Holy Spirit is looking for those that have been justified by faith and clothed in the Righteousness of Christ, (see first three lectures) before He is granted permission to set up shop internally in the heart, and begin the work of transforming us.

The Holy Spirit is out there wooing **all** men to Christ. He is working on the conscience of **all**, and in this way, **all** men have a measure of the Spirit even before they have received the Righteousness of Christ or saved by faith. But before the new man can be created, he must have the Holy Spirit move internally deep within the heart. The Holy Spirit must be given permission to change the person. This is done when the sinner receives the Righteousness of Christ by faith, repents, dies to self and is baptized the first time, and continues in a daily experience.

b. Read Romans 6:22

“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your _____ unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”

- **Thought question:** In light of our study today why is Sanctification or Holiness called **fruit**?
- Is your life currently producing the fruit of Holiness?
If not what must you do to have a Spirit-filled life?
For the answer review **The Wheel of Faith** and discuss what step do you need to return to or work on that you may begin bearing a fruit-filled sanctified life?

3. While some are in danger of putting off Sanctification to some distant time in the future, still others do not believe it is necessary at all. Yet there are others who have another confusion about what Sanctification is. There are many who confuse the results or fruits of Sanctification with Sanctification itself.

If we are truly being sanctified, then that means that our lives will begin to change. We will become obedient to God’s law, God’s ideal for our lives. It means that we

will begin living a life like Jesus, and we will begin living less like those that are not being sanctified. That means that we will begin to do a lot of new things in the church, and outside the church. Here is a list of things that sanctified people will begin to do in their lives. (Caveat: The list is illustrative and by no means exhaustive)

The List:

Church offices	Training	Workshops
Seminars	Evangelism	Dress, diet and health
Books you must read	Disaster coordinator, pathfinder leader	Literature evangelist
Deacon	Sabbath school	Get involved
Camp meetings	Investiture	Religious liberty
Ingathering	Proper or improper entertainment	Church traditions
Holiness standards	Church school	Child education
Proper music	Reverence in the sanctuary	Bible study
Sabbath and manner of observance	Outreach	Etc, etc

I think you get the point! The list consists of all the things that Christians do inside and outside of the church.

a. Here is the **main point**. The list is the **fruit** of a **sanctified life**; it is not **SANCTIFICATION**. Many people confuse list keeping or doing with how you are sanctified. We do the list **because** we are sanctified, not in order to **be** sanctified.

- Why do we need to make this distinction?
- Can unconverted people do **THE LIST**?

- **Read** all of **Matthew 23** with special attention to **verse 28**.

For discussion:

- Do you think that the Scribes and Pharisees were good list keepers?
- Did they do many religious things?
- What did Jesus say about their list keeping or their religious things they did?

- **Read** this quote then discuss the dangers of keeping the list without being truly sanctified. Can the list fool a person into thinking they are actually saved?

“It is true that there may be an outward correctness of deportment without the renewing power of Christ. The love of influence and the desire for the esteem of others may produce a well-ordered life. Self-respect may lead us to avoid the appearance of evil. A selfish heart may perform generous actions. By what means, then, shall we determine whose side we are on?”
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- But how can I be sure my list keeping is legitimate? Because converted people do have a list, a healthy church does have a list, but unhealthy churches and unconverted people can also have a list. How do we know?
- **Let’s finish our quote from above to learn how we can know the difference:** *“By what means, then, shall we determine whose side we are on?” Who has the heart? With whom are our thoughts? Of whom do we love to converse? Who has our warmest affections and our best energies? If we are Christ's, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him. All we have and are is consecrated to Him. We long to bear His image, breathe His spirit, do His will, and please Him in all things. Those who become new creatures in Christ Jesus will bring forth the fruits of the Spirit”*
- So, here is the rub: If I want to make sure my list keeping is legitimate then all I have to do is make sure that I have Him dwelling in my heart, and it will produce a kind of faith that works.
- This is the work of the Holy Spirit to keep me in the first six steps of the **Wheel of Faith**. The first six steps will keep Jesus dwelling in my heart, and as this process happens, I will be continually sanctified, transformed, and changed. And the fruit is always **THE LIST**
- The truth is that Sanctification comes through the continual experience of justification (steps 1-6)

- If I want to be sanctified, if I want real works, a legitimate list, then the focus must not be on **the list**, or even sanctification, but on **Christ** as He is revealed in the first six steps.

- **Thought questions:**

Have you been over focused on the list rather than Christ?

When is the last time you focused on the first six steps?

Is it possible that you have been going about the Gospel backwards?

- Read **Hebrews 12:1-2**

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that _____ and the _____ that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the _____ marked out for us, _____ our _____ on _____, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

- It is abundantly clear that the way we overcome sin, or what we would call being sanctified, and run the race set before us (meaning keeping the list) is to look to Jesus. And now you know we look unto Jesus through the first six steps revealed in **The Wheel of Faith**.

- **Read this quote** from The Seventh-day Adventist Commentary on **Romans 6:14** - the Way of true Sanctification. What is the emphasis to be on?

“Sanctification in its very primal state is simply “union with Christ” and that union is facilitated by the Holy Spirit, and when that union takes place continually, the result is a Christ-like character that will be seen in all the world through works.”