What is sanctification?

<u>Sanctification</u> is the process of renewing our mind and maturing in Christ.

<u>Sanctification</u> is the process of tearing down the thrones of our soul (mind, will and emotions) and building Gods' kingdom.

Sanctification means we now have the opportunity and responsibility to:

- Explore the stuff in our soul...old sin issues, deep hurt and wounding, traumas and the lies we believe about ourselves, God and others.
- It is where we crucify our old sinful nature and take on the very nature and character of Jesus Christ.

<u>Sanctification</u> is like going through ALL those boxes that are buried deep in your closet...hidden and packed away!

- Going through all of those hidden boxes in the closet of our soul and cleaning them out.
- It means tearing down the strongholds and thrones of shame, guilt, fear, bitterness, anger, unforgiveness, accusation, rejection, lust etc.
- It means we get to clean and purify our mind, thoughts, emotions, words, reactions, actions, attitudes and beliefs.
- Dead to the old and alive in Christ!
 - We are to be totally cleaned out and dead to the stuff that has been.

<u>Sanctification</u> is where we tear down the idols and thrones in our soul.

Truth...

"To the degree idols and thrones are removed from our soul, is the degree in which God will reveal Himself to you."

Sanctification is KEY to experiencing more of God!

Sanctification is the KEY to maturing in God.

• It is the process God uses to mature us.

<u>Sanctification</u> includes the purification of our mind/thoughts, words, actions, attitudes, beliefs...our soul (mind, will and emotions).

<u>Sanctification</u> is the life long journey of clearing the lands of our soul (mind, will and emotions) so we become more like Jesus in our <u>thoughts</u>, <u>words</u>, <u>and actions</u>.

The Sanctification process is designed to train, educate, empower and transforms us from the inside and out!

The word tells us to be Holv as He is Holv.

"Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be Holy as I am Holy."

"Both the old and new Testaments tell us to be pure in our heart...our mind (thoughts), will, emotions, words/speech and body."

It tells us to:

- Guard our thoughts, words and our heart.
- Renew our thought, life and speech.
- How we are to speak and treat others...our acts and actions of holiness!

As HIS chosen, we are to be a place of honor and holiness for our Lord to dwell!

- In our heart...
- In our soul (thoughts, words, emotions, and will.)
- In our body through our words, actions and reactions.
- Our whole being is to reflect and represent HIM in every way.

For many of us this sounds like a daunting almost impossible endeavor.

And in truth it is if we try to do it ourselves!

We can only successfully go through the process of sanctification with the help of the HOLY SPIRIT.

- He is our helper, teacher and guide.
- He is the Spirit of truth.
- He is the power hose that does all the cleaning!!!

<u>Sanctification</u> starts with renewing our thought life and changing our words!

Last week we touched broadly upon the renewing of our thoughts and words. Let's go deeper...

The bible has a lot to say about our words...

"Out of the abundance of our heart the mouth speaks."

We have a responsibility to be Students of our words!

<u>Heb. 11:3</u> By faith we understand that the worlds were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible.

Satan knows if he can control/influence our words, he can release destruction, pain, failure, poverty, loss, etc. not just in our life and destiny but onto our future descendants.

Last week we also learned a few Open Doors the enemy uses to release death over ourselves and others through our words.

- 1) Cussing and foul language
- 2) Gossiping
- 3) Negative, critical, demeaning, judgmental opinions about others
- 4) Negative, critical, demeaning thoughts and words about yourself
- 5) Cursing yourself and others
- 6) An unthankful heart towards God, your life, yourself, and others

Our words have spiritual Power... both in the negative and in the positive.

Our words will either bless or curse

- Bring life or death
- It is always our choice as to whose kingdom we release out of our mouth!

Old proverbs...

- "Don't speak unless you can improve on the silence"
- "If you don't have anything good to say...don't say anything at all."
- "Be careful of your thoughts...they may become words any moment."

One of God's greatest laws in the spirit is the law of words.

"Words" is a law that can work for us...or against us depending on our words!

Our words reveal who we are, our attitudes, beliefs, and where our life is going, if we are a positive influence on our own life, family, and friends, etc.

Eph. 4:29 and let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth! But only that which is for necessary edification that it may impart grace to the hearer!

• A corrupt word is a word that is negative which spreads and begins to destroy.

Prov. 4 No person can grow in faith without changing the words they speak.

• NO person can grow in love...without changing the way they speak.

"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

The spoken word either from your mouth or the mouth of others!

- No person can grow in Faith without changing the way they speak.
- No person can grow in Hope without changing the way they speak.
- No person can grow and mature as a Christian without changing the way they speak.
- No person can grow intimately with Christ without changing his/her thoughts and speech.
- No person can experience ALL of the benefits of the cross without changing his/her thoughts and speech.

Prov. 4:23 keep your heart in all diligence for out of it springs the issues of life.

Vrs.24 put away from you a deceitful mouth.

Prov. 11:11by the blessings of the upright the city is exalted but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked!

Prov. 12:13 the wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips but the righteous will come through trouble.

Prov. 13:3 He who guards his mouth deserves life but he who opens wide his lips will have destruction.

Prov. 21:23 Whoever guards his mouth and tongue, keeps his soul from trouble.

Turn your mouth to the glory of God for a greater way and use!

Prov. 29:11 A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back.

- Yes, we need to express ourselves but there is a Godly honorable way to do that.
- Our words have consequences!

James 1:26 if any religious person doesn't keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

We need to cut off the flow of the enemy by getting a hold of our tongue!

Prov. 18:21 Life and death is in the power of the tongue.

- The devil and God wants our words!
- Each of them need our words to accomplish their kingdom in our lives and generation

Words reveal our heart...

Luke 6:45 "Out of the abundance of the heart our mouth speaks".

- What we believe about ourselves, life, health, others will come out.
- These beliefs have more power over our lives than our prayers because they come out of the depths of our heart.
- It's more important to me what I say after I pray than while I pray. It shows my true heart!

There are things that God doesn't want you to say anymore...

Things like...

- I can't ...
- I'm not good at that., That's not my gift., I'm a poor organizer., I'm not a good speaker, teacher, etc.
- I'm not smart enough, not gifted in that area, etc.

Do not say...

- Shame on me.
- This is driving me nuts. It's killing me. I'm going crazy.
- What a dummy I am.
- How could I be so stupid?
- Critical things about self and others.

Don't release negative speculative words...

- What if?
- But...

Listen to what you say and NOT what others say!!!

Focus on yourself!

"Words heard create core beliefs and change atmospheres."

- You hear something enough you finally come to believe it!
- It's not a matter of not speaking something...it's a matter of intentionally speaking to make a positive treasure in your heart.

Use your mouth to consistently bring glory to God!

- Speak His promises, His interventions; constantly put your words as a rudder in your life.
- The power of the word to create and frame our future is far beyond what we know.
- We need to speak proactively!

Listen to what you are saying and the spirit behind your words.

You will release the kingdom of God when your mouth is filled with...

- Praise
- Thankfulness
- Joy
- Encouragement
- Honor
- Love
- Respect
- Grace
- Speaking the truth in love and respect

You will release the kingdom of the enemy when your words are driven by the spirits of:

- Criticism
- Accusation
- Gossip
- Rejection
- Un-thankfulness
- Complaining
- Wining
- Fear
- Negativity
- Hopeless, despair
- Anger, offence
- Pride

The way we think affects the way we feel.

• Self-talk can actually alter your glandular, muscular and neural behavior.

We need to take responsibility over our words as well as our actions!

• We can't change what we're doing until we change what we're thinking!!!

What you think about yourself has a chemical and spiritual effect on your body and life!

What are we thinking, speaking, and listening to?

Renewing the mind and changing our words is a Journey...

Quote: Princess Diary's movie

"From now on you will be traveling the road between who you think you are and who you can be. The key is to allow yourself to make the journey."

The steps into your journey

- 1. Take every thought captive unto the obedience of Christ and actively guard your words by only speaking God's best over self.
 - Develop the life-long habit of...Thinking about what you think about!
 - Remember-Not everything you think is true!
 - Renew your thoughts with how God sees you...your true identity!
- 2. Start Speaking His words of life, truth and blessings over yourself
 - Say it like you mean it...with feeling and passion!
 - Use your voice, expressions and emotions.
 - Use your body and put your whole self into it.
- 3. Start using your sanctified imagination! Imagine what God's word of life would look like in your life and others.
 - Imagine yourself changed, healed, free...your imagination will win. It is KEY!
 - Ask God...What healing, freedom, a sound mind, money in the bank, living your destiny, your kids living their destiny, etc. will look like.
 - See yourself being and doing who He says you are and can do.
 - See your kids being and doing what He says they can do and be.
 - Ask Holy Spirit to help you see God's view of you and His promises about you and for you.

The Power of life and death is in the power of the tongue

Spirit of life and death is in everything we say.

Psalm 68:11 The Lord gave the word, and great was the company that proclaimed it!

- Let's be the company who proclaims the word of the Lord.
- Let's change the atmosphere around us.
- Let's change the atmosphere within us.
- Let's change the very substance of our body and being.

It all starts with us...within ourselves.

What are you speaking and believing about yourself???

- When we speak His word and His benefits over ourselves, we find our identity!
- Every new step of our Christian life requires a heart belief and a verbal confession of what Jesus died to give us and who we are in Him!

Psalm 103 Bless the Lord oh my soul and forget NOT all of His benefits.

 HIS Benefits are what He has done for us, is doing for us, will do for us and continues to do for us!!!!

The word of God is our benefits manual...

• It contains the keys to who we are, what we have been given and how to walk and use it here on earth!

<u>Daily speaking ALL of His benefits over yourself will build your faith, hope and expectancy to receive.</u>

 Spiritually and physically things start to change...to bring the living word to life in you or whoever you pray for!

I have the mind of Christ!!! I have A sound Mind!!!! Great benefit!!!!

- Speak it over your brain and all of its functions.
- Speak it over your mind, memory, thoughts.
- Instead of how stupid, slow, ADD, memory loss etc!!!!

God will provide all of my needs according to His riches in Glory...another great benefit!!!

- Instead of speaking lack, poverty and hopelessness
 - I have no money, I'm broke, I'll never get ahead, etc.
- Phil 4:19 God richly supplies all of my needs (financial, relational, physical, emotional.) I am the head and NOT the tail!!!!

Rom. 10:9 says confession is made unto salvation.

What we speak is going to lead us somewhere.

- It may lead us to salvation.
- It may lead us to healing, abundance, peace, joy etc.

Our confession...what we speak will lead us somewhere.

- Where are your confessions leading you???
- Where do you want them to lead you???

1 Peter 3: 10 Let his tongue depart from evil and his lips from speaking deceit.

 Our words are either a rudder to direct our lives into God's plans for us or they become a curse that puts fences around our potential.

It's not going to happen just because we say it, but saying it is involved with making it happen!

But we do need to say it in order to make it happen.

Our words will direct (be a rudder) for the release of the power of God into our situation, life, finances, relationships, home, church, city and nation.

• Our words have the power to release His benefits!!

There are 3 areas in which our words can/will advance God's Kingdom:

1. Our words can advance God's will in others' life...

Eph. 4:29 "let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth but what is good and necessary edification that it may impart grace to the hearer."

2. We can advance God's kingdom/will by speaking to obstacles:

The Word says that we can use our words to advance God's kingdom by having faith and speaking to obstacles.

Mark 11:23-24 Truly I tell you, whoever says to this mountain," Be lifted up and thrown into the sea!" and does not doubt at all in his heart but believes that what he says will take place, it will be done for him.²⁴ For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will [get it].

- A turning point in a Christian's life is when we talk to our obstacles rather than about them!
- We can speak to obstacles (mountains) in others' lives.
- 3. We use our words to advance God's kingdom by rebuilding our identity (how heaven sees us).
 - Speaking how God sees us ... Tears down the walls of our old identity of lack, powerlessness, weakness, hopelessness, unworthiness, being incapable, self-hate, etc.
 - And rebuilds the walls of our true identity of abundance, blessings, favor, peace, joy, love, strength, power, hopefulness, being capable, being responsible, wise, giving, worthy and being more than a conqueror!

Make the commitment that you want to change how you think and speak about yourself.

- It takes over 30 days to change a habit.
- 1. Ask Father to forgive you for thinking and speaking negative, lifeless, destroying words over yourself and others.
- 2. As Him to forgive you and to break the curse of these words and thoughts off of your life and generations and the life of others and their generations in Jesus name.
- 3. Start paying attention to what you are saying.
 - Identify the thoughts you have about yourself and others.
 - Identify the words you are speaking over yourself and others.
 - Identify the spirit behind the thoughts and words.
- 4. As you identify (recognize) the spiritual force behind your words...

Tell Father you are sorry for coming into agreement with the lies and the spiritual forces behind the lies.

- 1) Recognize, Repent (for believing them), Renounce the lies and the spiritual forces (thrones in your soul) behind them.
- 2) Break the assignment, bondage, power and curse off you and the future.
- 3) Tear down the squatter's thrones and kick them out!
- 4) Fill yourself up with God's words of life...how He sees you and Who you really are!
 - Don't just say them over yourself ...declare out of yourself and over yourself!
 - Don't pray them over yourself...declare them over yourself.
 - Don't think them...speak them!

This is how we declare God's benefits of abundance over ourselves:

- 1. With your mouth speak forth.
- 2. With your voice speak forth and project with passion, emotions, commitment, authority and power!
- 3. With your body move and express with your words.
- 4. With your mind see everything you say coming true!!!

Remember:

- Your mouth is the vehicle God uses to proclaim, declare, release, bless, heal and create.
- Your voice is what releases His will into the atmosphere.
- Faith comes by hearing...His words, His promises, His life spoken over you.
- Your spirit comes into agreement with your words and voice, in turn releasing peace, security, hope, joy, faith, etc., to your soul.
- Your body responds to what is happening spiritually and physically BUT in order to release power and authority you must express with your body.
- Your imagination...sanctified and in line with God's kingdom promises sees what heaven is saying and sees it happening. (His kingdom coming into your life!)

Over the next 30 days...Declare these promises over yourself at least twice a day

- You will see how they feed your body, soul, spirit and the spiritual atmosphere around you.
- You will see changes about how you feel towards yourself, your future and God.
- You will see a change in how others respond to you and how you respond to them.
- You will see an increase in your faith and your power and authority.
- You will see the enemy trying to stop you from doing this! But when you go back and overcome the flesh and the enemy, YOU will see how YOU are overcoming the enemy and taking back your abundant beautiful land!

Declarations

- 1. I set the course of my life with my words & thoughts! (James 3:2-5)
- 2. I choose for my words and thoughts to come from God's kingdom! I choose to see myself and my life like He sees me!
- 3. I declare that I am who the bible says I am. I have what it says I have. I can do what it says I can do. I increasingly possess in my experience the promises of God! I declare today that I cannot be defeated, discouraged, depressed, or disappointed! (Phil. 4:13)
- 4. I am the head. I have insight. I have wisdom, I have ideas, I have creativity, I have authority in Jesus name, I have power...the same power that raised Christ Jesus from the dead lives in me! (Deut., James, Romans, Luke)
- 5. God is on my side today and every day of my life, therefore I can NOT be defeated, nothing by any means will hurt or harm me! I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me! (Romans 8:37, Psalm 91)
- 6. I speak God's promises and they come to pass. They stop all attacks, assaults, oppression and fear from of the enemy. (2 Peter 1:2-4, Mark 11:23-24)
- 7. I have the wisdom of God today. I will think the right thoughts say the right words and make the right decisions in every situation I face. (1 Cor. 2:16)
- 8. I am the head, I have insight, I have wisdom, I have brilliant ideas and I have astounding creativity! (Deut. 28:13; 8:18; James 1:5-8; Luke 10:19)
- 9. I choose life today! I will not be depressed or hopeless today, I will not be in lack today, I will not be confused today. I choose abundant life, favor and blessings today. I choose health and wholeness today in my body, soul and spirit! I have the mind of Christ today. I am filled with hope and God's promises today! (Deut. 30:19; Neh. 8:10; Ps 103:1-3; 2 Tim 1:6,7 and more)
- 10. Today, I expect the best day of my life spiritually, physically, emotionally, relationally and financially in Jesus name! Rom. 15:13

Breakout Questions

1. Share with your group how you felt after making these declarations.

2. Last week you were asked:

- This week pay attention to what you are speaking over yourself, your spouse, kids, pastors, boss, life, health, and finance. Please share how this week went along with an example.
- Did you learn to stop and change your words? Did you take responsibility for your words and say you were sorry to God, self and others?
- 3. Did you declare your declarations daily?
 - Please share how you felt before, during and after the declarations.
 - Please share how your day and week was affected by the declarations.
- 4. How is this teaching and revelation changing and affecting your life?
- 5. Do you want to take the life long journey into a renewed sanctified mind and speech?
 - Are you willing to commit to daily guarding your thoughts, words and actions? Share and explain.
 - Are you willing to take the 30 day challenge to renew your thoughts, words, actions?
 - If yes to all of the above: Please share why you want to do this and your expectations.
- 6. Take 5 minutes and write down your daily plan to bring this renewal into your life.
 - Keep it simple. You don't want to over load yourself so that you won't succeed.
 - You may want to find an accountability partner to walk out the next 30 days with you. Daily email, texts or call each other to make sure you stay on track.
 - Orally make your Renewed Mind and Speech Commitment to your group and the Lord.
 - Make sure that you daily declare your declarations at least once a day.
 - You will find that you will want to add your own declaration according to how Holy Spirit moves you. Add scriptures.
 - Don't be shy...use your voice, body and imagination!!!!
 - Share your success with friends!!!! And thank the Lord!!!!
 - Declare that you WILL be successful and see all of God's best released into your life!!!!