

Sharing in His Divine Nature

As we know Jesus better, his divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive his own glory and goodness! And by that same mighty power, he has given us all of his rich and wonderful promises. He has promised that you will escape the decadence all around you caused by evil desires and that you will share in his divine nature.

2 Peter 1:3-4 (NLT)

Prayer Focus: There is no secret or "special key" to living a meaningful and godly life. Simply stated, the more we get to know Jesus in greater intimacy, the more supernatural and divine power from Jesus will flow through us. Jesus is inviting us to share in His own divine nature that will fill us to overflowing with the ability to escape evil and live in righteousness. There is no need to search out secrets of success or hidden spiritual realities. There is no need to strive under our own power to live an acceptable and pleasing life. Jesus' very own power sanctified within us gives us the ability to separate ourselves from the desires and lures of the world. As we grow in our relationship and intimate knowledge of Jesus, we can be assured of His victory in a decadent world. How well do you really know Jesus? Does He saturate your thoughts? Are you in constant union with Him in prayer and worship as you walk through the challenges of life? Do you invite Jesus to speak into your life at every moment, knowing that intimacy with Him will fill you with divine power? Invite Jesus to take you on an intimate journey with Him.

- **Day 1:** Praise Jesus for allowing us to share in His divine nature.
- Day 2: Thank the Lord for His promises of victory and life.
- Day 3: Ask the Lord to help you grow in a more intimate knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Day 4:** Repent of the ways you have taken your relationship with Christ for granted—and not earnestly sought Him.
- Day 5: Ask Jesus to speak to you with greater clarity.
- **Day 6:** Pray that your church will help people understand the truth of walking in intimacy with Jesus.
- **Day 7:** Dedicate yourself to knowing Jesus more intimately.

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Jesus Christ as Our Sanctifier

Jesus Christ is our life! Jesus is more than just our Savior from our sins of the past. Paul states in 1 Corinthians 1:30 that we are in Christ. In Colossians 1:27, Paul says that Christ lives in us! Jesus Christ did not die on the cross for our sins, then go back to the Father and leave us to fend for ourselves in this life. He is our new life.

Perhaps one of the reasons that Christians flounder so much in their walk is the lack of understanding of this key teaching of Scripture. The word "sanctification" has the idea of being set apart from something and to something else. This means that we are set apart from the life and ways of the world around us and set apart to God.

But this is not something we strive for; it is something we obtain through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul teaches in Colossians 2:6 that we are to live by the same kind of faith as when we received Christ Jesus as Savior. Jesus used the illustration in John 15 of the vine and the branches. The branch does not produce fruit by straining and striving, but by allowing the life of the vine to flow through it. The life that is in the vine produces life in the branch. Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches.

Jesus Christ as our sanctification means that He lives His life out through us. It is not about our attempts to attain perfection; it is our old life exchanged for His life in us. In humility and obedience, we must surrender our lives to His control. When Jesus Christ is living His life through us, we will exhibit His very own characteristics—the greatest of which is supreme love for God and for others.

What an amazing and wonderful truth for us to understand and take for our own! Jesus Christ is not only our Savior from sin, He is our very breath of life. He will breathe through you as you yield your thoughts, hopes, and plans to Him. Paul's classic words in Galatians 2:20 give us the model for such a life:

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

As you pray through this section on Jesus Christ as our Sanctifier, allow the Holy Spirit to probe deep into your heart and bring you to a greater understanding of the wonderful truth of your union with your Savior. This is a glorious reality to be lived out in your life daily.

Transformation: Jesus in Our Midst

A s we pray about transformation, we need a common definition of what a truly transformed community might look like:

A transformed community is:

- A neighborhood, city, or nation whose values and institutions have been overrun by the grace and presence of God.
- A place where divine fire has not merely been summoned, but has fallen.
- A society in which natural change has been disrupted by invasive supernatural power.
- A culture that has been impacted comprehensively and undeniably by the Kingdom
 of God
- A location where Kingdom values are celebrated publicly and passed on to future generations.

Community transformation is indicated when:

- Political leaders publicly acknowledge their sin and dependence on God. (2 Kings 11:17-18; 23:1-3; Jonah 3:6-9).
- New laws, curricula, and business practices are put into effect (2 Chronicles 19:4-10;
 Nehemiah 10:31).
- The natural environment is restored to its original life-nurturing state (Leviticus 26:4-5; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Ezekiel 34:27-31).
- Economic conditions improve and lead to a discernible lessening of poverty. (2 Chronicles 17:3-5; Psalm 144:13-14; Isaiah 60:5-7; Amos 9:13).
- There is a marked change in social entertainment and vices as Kingdom values are integrated into the rhythm of daily life (Ezra 10:1-4; Nehemiah 8:10, 16-17; Acts 19:17-20).
- Crime and corruption diminish throughout the community
- (2 Kings 12:13-15; Nehemiah 5:6-12; Isaiah 60:17-18).
- Volunteerism increases as Christians recognize their responsibility to heal and undergird the community (Isaiah 58:10-12; 61:1-4).
- Restored hope and joy leads to a decline in divorce, bankruptcy, and suicide (Nehemiah 12:27-28, 43; Isaiah 54:11-14; 61:3-7; Jeremiah 30:17-19; 31:11-13; Hosea 2:15).
- The spiritual nature of the growing socio-political renewal becomes a hot topic in secular media (2 Chronicles 20:29; Nehemiah 6:16; Isaiah 55:5; Ezekiel 36:36; Acts 19:17).
- Overwhelmed by the goodness of God, grateful Christians take the embers of revival into surrounding communities and nations (2 Chronicles 17:9; Isaiah 61:6; Acts 11:20-26).

(Source: The Sentinel Group)

About Prayer Transformation Ministries

This prayer guide is written and published by Prayer Transformation Ministries, a ministry located in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. Since 1993, Prayer Transformation Ministries (PTM) has worked with the prayer movement in the Twin Cities, the state of Minnesota, and the nation.

Prayer Transformation Ministries provides Christ-centered awareness, training, and equipping for personal and societal transformation.

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Prayer Transformation Ministries serves by:

- Teaching/writing on principles of revival and transformation.
- Encouraging local churches to develop "cultures of prayer."
- Publishing prayer guides devoted to united prayer.
- Networking intercessors and prayer movements.
- Giving leadership to citywide catalytic prayer events.
- Producing Call to Prayer radio spots.
- Encouraging a children's prayer movement.
- Training and networking local church prayer leaders.

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