



Fall 2025 Chapel Series

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH US

Discussion Guide

(PT. 12) THE SANCTIFYING SPIRIT

KEY SCRIPTURES: Galatians 3:1-5; Romans 6:17-19

SPEAKER: Rev. Adam Fix, MDiv, Senior Pastor Our Savior EFC, Wheeling, IL

I. WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

II. RECALLING THE MESSAGE

- **Message Summary:** This message addresses the lifelong process of sanctification—the journey of becoming more like Christ—and affirms that it is powered entirely by the Holy Spirit. Drawing from Galatians 3:1-5, we challenge the common misconception that while salvation is received by faith, Christian maturity must be perfected through human effort, rule-keeping, or "the flesh." Paul argues that the same faith that received the Spirit must continue to be the means by which the Spirit supplies power for holiness. This process is the ultimate goal mentioned in Romans 6:17-19: the Spirit frees us from being slaves to sin, empowering us to wholeheartedly present ourselves to God as servants of righteousness, leading to a fruitful, holy life.
- What definition of sanctification resonated most with you from the message? (The Spirit-powered process of becoming more like Christ.)
- Have you ever experienced the temptation Paul addresses: starting your faith journey by the Spirit but trying to perfect it by "the flesh" (i.e., by relying on rigid rules, self-effort, or human willpower)? Describe what that felt like.

III. DIVING DEEPER INTO SCRIPTURE

- **The Spirit and Continual Faith (Galatians 3:1–5)**
 - Paul asks, "Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?" (v. 3). Why is it so tempting for believers, after experiencing the grace of salvation, to shift back toward earning or performing for spiritual growth?
 - The Spirit works miracles and "supplies the Spirit" among us because of "hearing with faith" (v. 5), not "works of the law." What does it mean practically to experience sanctification through faith rather than through human works or striving?

- How does realizing that the Spirit is continually "supplying" Himself remove the pressure of self-reliance in your pursuit of holiness?
- **The Freedom to Serve (Romans 6:17–19)**
 - Paul says we are "thankful" because we have become "obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed" (v. 17). What is the connection between being "obedient from the heart" and the work of the Holy Spirit?
 - We are told to present our members "as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification" (v. 19). Think of a specific area of your life (e.g., your tongue, your spending, your reaction to stress). What does it look like to consciously present that area to God as an instrument of righteousness this week?
 - The passage contrasts being a slave of sin with being a servant of righteousness. How has the Holy Spirit specifically broken the power of a sin in your life, demonstrating that you are truly free to serve God?

IV. PERSONAL REFLECTION & APPLICATION

- Where in your spiritual life are you trying to earn or *strive* for progress instead of *trusting* the Sanctifying Spirit to provide the power? What specific effort can you surrender to faith this week?
- Identify one action (a temptation to sin) or one attitude (a lack of love/patience) that you want the Spirit to sanctify this week. How will you intentionally rely on Him when that moment arises?

V. GROUP PRAYER

- Pray together, thanking God for the freedom the Spirit provides from the bondage of sin. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to live by faith, continually supplying the holiness that you cannot achieve on your own.
- Concluding remarks and encouragement.