

Sanctification IV

What Does “Working it Out” Look Like?

Romans 1:16-17 (NASB 2020) *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ONE WILL LIVE BY FAITH.”*

Romans 1:16-17 (NLT) *For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. This Good News tells us how God makes us right in His sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”*

I. God in the OT

Exodus 6:6-7 (NLT) *“Therefore, say to the people of Israel: ‘I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. I will claim you as My own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt.’*

What is God Saying: I will be your God, you will be my people and I will live among you!

Hebrews 8:8 (NLT) *But when God found fault with the people, he said: “The day is coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.*

Isaiah 29:13 (NLT) *And so the Lord says, “These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.*

Ezekiel 33:31-32 (NLT) *So my people come pretending to be sincere and sit before you. They listen to your words, but they have no intention of doing what you say. Their mouths are full of lustful words, and their hearts seek only after money. You are very entertaining to them, like someone who sings love songs with a beautiful voice or plays fine music on an instrument. They hear what you say, but they don’t act on it!*

What Israel did not realize was that the ceremonies/sacrifices were the path to an intimate relationship with God, not a coverup of their sinful behavior.

Exodus 25:8 (NLT) *Have the people of Israel build Me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them.*

It was not the fact that they kept sinning. It was the fact that their heart was not right with God. They did not continue to seek God!

Hebrews 8:10 (NLT) *But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.*

II. Only by Faith/ Believe that Jesus is in you!

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NLT) *Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.*

Romans 8:10-11 (NLT) *And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, He will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.*

Ephesians 4:30 (ESV) *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

Ephesians 4:30 (NLT) *And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption.*

Psalms 51:10-11 (NLT) *Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don’t take your Holy Spirit from me.*

III. Willing to admit wrongdoing, Repentance!

1 John 1:9-10 (NKJV) *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

Acts 3:19-20 (NLT) *Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah.*

It’s not just about repentance, many do not want to admit their sin.

1 John 1:8-10 (NLT) *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. **But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.** If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that His word has no place in our hearts.*

Romans 2:5-7 (NLT) *But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will judge everyone according to what they have done. **He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers.***

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV) *if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Matthew 16:24-25 (NLT) *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow Me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake, you will save it.*

****Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)** *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

He understands our weakness!

IV. The reward for continually seeking God and never giving up!

Romans 2:7 (NLT) *He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers.*

Romans 2:7-8 (NASB 2020) *to those who by perseverance in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality, He will give eternal life; but to those who are self-serving and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, He will give wrath and indignation.*

Hebrews 11:6 (AMP) *But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].*

Matthew 6:33 (AMP) *But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these thingstaken together will be given you besides.*

1 Chronicles 16:11 (AMP) *Seek the Lord and His strength; yearn for and seek His face and to be in His presence continually!*

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV) *And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

2 Thessalonians 3:13 (AMP) *And as for you, brethren, do not become weary or lose heart in doing right [but continue in well-doing without weakening].*

Matthew 7:7-8 (NKJV) *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.*