Intro: A Gift Not Given



I Corinthians 6:9-10

Wrongdoers = "the unrighteous" This is what the WORLD is like

Followers of Christ are "the righteousness of God"... yet we live in a world that is unrighteous! What are the implications of this?

Implication #I - Don't ASSUME you are among the righteous just because you go to church. "Do not be deceived."

Implication #2 - Living in an unrighteous world, we will feel pressure to live like everyone else!

Implication #3 - The world is watching our lives... and your testimony of transformation is a GIFT to the world!

I Corinthians 6:II

That is what some of you were. BUT you were washed. BUT you were sanctified. BUT you were justified.

But you were washed... the initial cleansing that happens at the moment of faith. Your sins are forgiven!

But you were sanctified... transformed from who you were to become LIKE JESUS. (Doctrine of Progressive Sanctification)

But you were justified. God the Judge has DECLARED you righteous. The righteousness of Christ becomes OUR righteousness. (Doctrine of imputed righteousness).

By faith in Jesus, we have POSITIONAL sanctification... yet, EXPERIENTIALLY, we still sin.

The Holy Spirit causes us to GROW until what is positionally true become experientially true.

The goal of discipleship is transformation. If you have the Spirit of God dwelling in you, then the process has already begun!

Don't get the idea that transformation is EASY... the Bible says that TRIALS are part of the sanctification process.



The Refiner's Fire



Transformation is not ONLY for our benefit... it's also a GIFT to the world!

When the world looks at the Church, do they see the WORLD reflected in us... or do they see CHRIST reflected in us?

Don't hide the GIFT of your transformed life in the sock drawer!

Prepare your TESTIMONY and be ready to share it as a GIFT to others

Your testimony is also an encouragement to other believers. Would you consider sharing your 3minute story on a Sunday morning?