



HEBREWS 6 PART 2

The Myth of the Middle Ground

There is a lethal misconception in modern Christianity that you can hit "pause" on your spiritual growth. We mistakenly believe that as long as we have prayed a prayer of salvation, we can put our faith in neutral and comfortably coast into heaven. Pastor Steve utterly dismantles this idea with a brilliant, terrifying illustration: Imagine parking a car on a steep hill without setting the brakes. You might feel stationary for a fraction of a second, but gravity guarantees that you will soon be rolling backward. In the Kingdom of God, there is no middle ground. You are either pressing forward into maturity, or you are drifting backward into apathy.

Hebrews 6 issues a massive challenge to the church. It commands us to leave the elementary principles of our faith and aggressively press on to perfection. While our ultimate salvation is completely secure in the finished work of Christ, we are called to engage in the grueling, lifelong, and glorious process of sanctification. This study will force you to evaluate your trajectory. Are you actively participating in the transformation of your own heart, or are you sitting on the porch expecting a harvest? Drop your anchor upward, brace for the trials that produce patience, and prepare to press on.

Doctrinal Definition: The Doctrine of Sanctification is the continuous, lifelong, and cooperative work of the Holy Spirit and the believer, wherein the justified Christian is actively purified from the pollution of sin and progressively conformed to the image of Jesus Christ through obedience to God's Word.

Study Questions:

1. We do not work for our salvation, but we must work out of our salvation. How do we practically and actively participate in the sanctification process on a daily basis rather than just passively waiting for God to 'magically' change our habits? (OT: Leviticus 20:7 | NT: Philippians 2:12-13)
2. The primary purpose of your life is not to simply be happy, wealthy, or comfortable; it is to be conformed to the image of Christ. When you look at your thoughts, words, and actions over the past week, in what specific area do you look the least like Jesus? (OT: Genesis 1:26 | NT: Romans 8:29)
3. Sanctification is often painful because it requires us to be reshaped. Read **Isaiah 64:8**. How does willingly submitting to the Potter's hand, even when the pressure He applies is uncomfortable, accelerate your spiritual maturity? (NT: Romans 5:3-5 | NT: Romans 9:20-21)
4. It is impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18). When the enemy whispers lies that you are unloved, unforgiven, or abandoned, how do you actively use the written promises of God to fight back? (OT: Numbers 23:19 | NT: Titus 1:2)
5. Pastor Spencer closed the service by quoting James 1:2. Why is it absolutely vital to count it "all joy" when we fall into various trials, and how do those specific trials serve as the primary fuel for our sanctification? (OT: Job 23:10 | NT: James 1:2-4)