

# Secular to Sanctified

## Topics

- testimony
- How I grew in God
- The importance of growing in God
- Backsliding Era
- The importance of community + the invitation
- Obedience
- Disobedience (pt. 1)
- Disobedience (pt. 2)

## Testimony (Day one)

- importance of sharing a testimony
  - may help others who feel:
    - ashamed
    - Don't know where to start
    - nervous to know God
    - no guidance
    - they are stuck in darkness

## Scripture verses:

· Psalms 96:3

"Declare his glory (among the nations), his marvelous works (among all the peoples)"

· Psalms 66:16

"Come + hear all you who fear God, and I will tell what (he) has (done) for my soul"

★ Testimonies bring people to God ★

## Why do we tell our testimony?

- its relatable
- Brings hope
- "if he did it for you - he can do it for me!"

## How did I grow in the Lord? (Day 2)

### 5 things I did to grow in the Lord

- ① **Keep a journal / prayer journal**
  - Helps you to go back + see what the Lord has done.  
(its a form of building an altar to the Lord/remembrance)
- ② **Get new friends**
  - "Tell me who your friends are + I will tell you who you are"
  - get equally yoked
  - Likeminded people
  - Christian vs. worldly counsel
  - accountability
  - praying friends (covering)
- ③ **Stop going back to old environment that do not serve/edify your growth**
  - ex: bars, parties, toxic friendships/relationships
  - ★ you will notice the more you lean into Christ, the harder it gets to be in these places★
- ④ **prayer / fasting**
  - Hear from God clearly
  - reset your brain
  - dedicating time to the father / sacrificing something
  - fasting / praying breaks things off your life.
- ⑤ **Read your word / pray / worship**
  - Gods formula
  - receive revelation from the word
  - you start to grow
  - you will begin to love what God loves + hate what God hates

## Bible Scriptures to support 5 things we should do to grow in the Lord (Day 3)

### ① **Keeping a journal / prayer journal**

**Genesis 22:14**

v.14 - Abraham names the place (mountain) where he almost killed his son "the Lord provided"



★ memorial to what the Lord has done ★

**Genesis 32:22-32**

(2 forms of remembrance)

- ① v.30 - Jacob after wrestling w/ God, he named the place because it is here where Jacob sees God face to face.
- ② Israel in remembrance of Jacob's hip being injured do not eat any tendon attached to the socket of the hip.

Exodus 17:1-16

- After the Amalekites are defeated the Lord tells Moses to write the memory on a scroll
- Moses built an altar + called it "The Lord is my banner"

② Get new friends (equally yoked / Christlike)

1 Corinthians 15:33

- Do not be misled. "Bad company corrupts good character"

Hebrews 10:24-25

- spur each other up in love + good deeds
- meeting together (community)
- encourage each other

John 15:12-15

- Jesus himself is talking
- Real friendship = Real love ♥
  - sometimes that means tough love + correction, etc.
  - someone to keep you in check
- Are you willing to lay your life down + vice versa?
- Jesus says everything he has learned from the father he makes known to his friends (share Jesus)
- Christian friends don't give worldly advice, they give heavenly wisdom

③ Stop going back to old environments / relationships

- Romans 12:2

- Do not conform to the world, renew your mind

★ can't have the same mindset when you're a new creation ★

- Ephesians 4:17-32

- must no longer live like the world
- if you live like the world you are separated from a life of God
- Living in darkness hardens hearts ♥ (v.18)
- This life is considered impure + lustful to God.
- fleshy desires are deceitful + corrupt
- to be made new means to live in righteousness + holiness.
- you must no longer live in falsehood but live in truth
- Don't give the enemy a foothold
- get rid of unwholesome talk, bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, + slander

★ Any environment / relationship that thrives in darkness - cannot be your

"Chill spot" - you are a child of light

#### ④ Prayer/Fasting

★ Importance of prayer ★

- communication w/ God
- Jesus himself prayed

Luke 3:21-22

- Jesus prays
- Heaven opens
- Holy Spirit descends on him

★ When we pray → the heavens open → God hears us → + the Holy Spirit ministers to us ★

Luke 6:12

- Jesus goes alone to pray
- find a special place to pray everyday  
e.g. (room, prayer closet, beach, prayer walk)
- make an appt w/ God.  
(set an alarm)

Daniel 10:1

- v.2 fast explained (3 weeks / 21 days)
- no food
- no wine/meat
- no lotions

★ Daniel was met by an angelic being - why?

v.12 says Daniel set his mind to gain understanding + to humble himself before God

- his words were heard
- God sent a response.

★ Fasting is self humbling + opens the door for heavenly revelation ★

#### ⑤ Read your word / pray / worship

Matthew 4:4

- Jesus says man should live on every word that comes from God

2 Timothy 2:15

- How can you show yourself as a true believer/follower if you don't know the manual to your faith?

2 Timothy 4:3

- You won't be able to tell the difference btwn a false/true teacher of the Word

★ Know your word ★

Deuteronomy 10:4-21

- praise him for all things were created by him
- He has chosen (you) to be his Holy People

Jeremiah 20:13

- He rescues you when in need
- He's faithful



1 Samuel 16:14-23

- worship drives out demons

Challenge: Apply + pray these scriptures over your life + ask God to transform you.

## Backsliding Era (Day 4)

What is backsliding?

- Definition (online)

"someone who lapses into previous undesirable patterns of behaviors"

- Definition on YouVersion Bible app

"The word backslide in a Christian context, implies movement away from Christ rather than toward him"

What it looks like to backslide

- Jeremiah 2

- the Lord describes backsliding using words like:

- Strayed
- defiled
- rebelled
- following worthless idols
- prophesying false doctrine
- exchanging
- forsaking him
- turning against him
- turning our backs to him
- calling to him only when in trouble
- forgetting him
- changing your ways

What does God say about the dangers of backsliding

- Jeremiah 2:9

- brings charges (consequence)
- brings charges (consequence) against your children (becomes generational)

- Proverbs 14:14

- Backslider will be paid back from his own ways (Reap what you sow)

- 2 Peter 2:20-22

- you become like a dog returning back to its vomit
- will be overcome

How to turn back to God?

Revelation 2:5

"Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent; do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you + remove your lampstand

from its place unless you (repent)

① choose to (remember) God.

- go back to your first love
- remember all he's done for you

② (Repent) (ax in this verse)

- own up to your mistakes
- ask God for forgiveness (sincerely)
- Repentance leads to changed behavior

③ (Do the works)

- works doesn't save you if not attached to faith  
(James 2:26)

- empty works = empty worship
- spend time w/ God
- read the word
- praise / worship
- find community
- pray → Divine appointments + a secret place

Challenge: - Do you identify with backsliding?

- are you ready to turn back to God?

The importance of community + the invitation (DAY 5)

What's the importance of Community?

- Being around like minded people
- accountability
- community calls you higher
- Jesus had community
- God says it's important

What does the Bible say about community?

Genesis 2:18

- "not good for man to be alone" - God
- God sees the importance of relationship
- the enemy wants us alone because than no one can help us fight

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

- If you fall who can help you back up?
- How can you keep yourself warm?
- The enemy may overpower you alone but it's harder to knock you down if you have people standing w/ you.

Galatians 6:1-2

- Help people out of sin
- accountability
- carry each others burdens

Challenge: Find community

## Obedience (Day 6)

Why is it important to be obedient?

- Proverbs 1:7

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but **fools** despise wisdom + discipline"

what is a fool? ←

- Dictionary.com says a fool is someone who acts unwisely or imprudently; a silly person

★ it is unwise to not be obedient ★

- the Bible says a fool is "someone who disregards God's word"

Ecclesiastes 10:2

commentary - enduring word :

★ Right hand was regarded as a sign of strength, skill, + favor meaning the wise man's heart + is known + a strength to him

★ Latin word → sinister means left.

★ When you are disobedient/rebel against God you actually have a sinister heart ★

What does God say?

- our obedience has blessings tied to it  
(can be generational blessings)

Deuteronomy 28 (known as a list of curses + blessings)

- considered "Deuteromic theology" or "doctrine of retribution"

↓

Romans 2: 6-8

Deuteronomy 28: 1-14

- Blessings are given to those who are obedient, following his commands, + his ways

- Blessings are conditional

ex of blessings:

- always be on top
- you will be blessed in your city
- your womb (children) will be blessed.
- You will not lack - not even in famine
- enemies cannot defeat you
- the Lord will establish you
  - success in everything you do or touch
- lender not the borrower

Obedience in the New Testament

· John 14:15 (Jesus says)

· James 1:22-24

· Romans 6:16

Obedience = life

★ Challenge: Have you been obedient?

## Disobedience (Day 7 - pt 1)

What does it look like to be disobedient?

- Disobedient: refusal/neglect to obey (websters dictionary)
- greek word for disobedience in the New Testament  
Parakouo (Par. ak. oo. o)
  - to hear aside
  - unwilling to hear
  - neglect
  - disobey

\*Anything that neglects the word of God disobedience\*

\*choosing to ignore God is disobedience\*

↳ unwilling to hear the lord / disregarding what he says is good + bad

2 timothy 3:1-7 (Paul writes Timothy)

Descriptions or forms of disobedience according to Paul:

• Lovers of self

• Matthew 23:25-26

• Lovers of money

• Matthew 6:24

• John 2:15

• Proud / arrogance

• Proverbs 8:12-13

• 1 Samuel 2:3

• Abusive

• Psalms 55:9

• 2 Peter 2 (entire chapter)

• Disobedient to their parents

• Ephesians 6:1-3

• Ungrateful

• Romans 1:21

• Unholy

• Hebrews 10:26

(Day 2 - pt 2) • Heartless (lack of feeling/consideration)

• Romans 1:28-31

• Unappeasable (unable to be satisfied)

• 2 Timothy 4:3

• Slanderous

• Psalms 101:5

• Matthew 12:34-36

• w/o self control

• Proverbs 25:28

- Galatians 5:22-23
- Brutal (savage, cruel)
- ★ Doesn't have to be physical, can be verbal - breaking someone's Spirit ★
- Proverbs 15:1
- Not loving good
- 3 John 1:11
- treacherous (betrayal / deception)
- 2 Corinthians 11:4
- Proverbs 12:20
- Reckless
- Proverbs 12:18
- Swollen w/ conceit
- Phillipians 2:3
- psalms 36:2
- Lovers of pleasure
- ★ Anything that supercedes your love of Christ ★
- relationships
- sexual immorality
- Money
- etc.

★ Disobedience leads to death ★

Re-read Hebrews 10:26-31

Challenge: Where do you operate from - obedience or disobedience?