

Sanctification

or

Set Apart to God as a Saint

Sanctification. That's a big word with an important meaning! **Sanctification** means to be set apart to God as holy. It doesn't mean our holiness or goodness. Holy means that we have God's goodness or righteousness, +R. He set us apart to Himself as saints. Imagine that! Now, that doesn't mean that we don't do any wrong, and that we have special days named after us. It has nothing to do with our "goodness" or human works. It means that, as believers in Jesus Christ, we belong to God. We are His property. What a wonderful Owner we have! We've been separated to God! We've been sanctified!



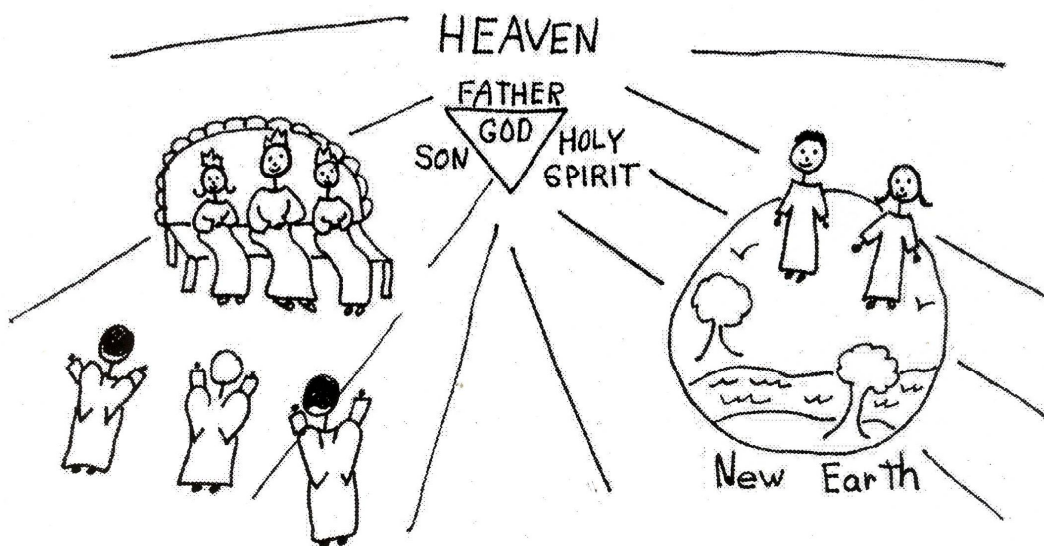
1 Corinthians 1:1-2 Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Sosthenes the brother, to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

Sanctification also means that we believers belong to God as His children in the Royal Family. He has set each child in the Royal Family apart to do something for Him. God has a special purpose for every believer. He has given each of us our own spiritual gift. We are to use our spiritual gift to help others. The Holy Spirit will give us the power to do that. God gave us a grace gift which helps us in sooo many ways, and we have the privilege of sharing it with the Royal Family. What a Father! What a Son! What a Holy Spirit! **What a God!** What a family!



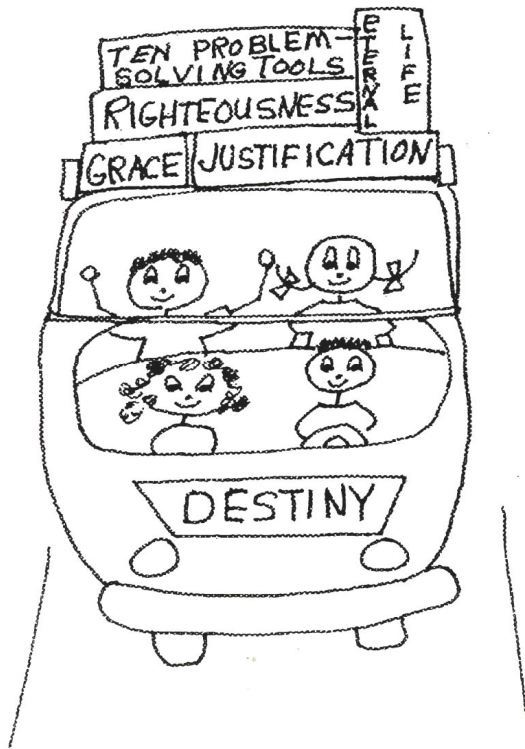
Romans 1:1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God. [Paul had a special gift.]

There are three parts to **sanctification**. First, there is **positional sanctification** at salvation. Positional sanctification refers to what God the Holy Spirit does to each believer at the moment of salvation. He enters the believer into union with Christ, Who is seated at the right hand of God the Father. This is called the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Our position is being seated at the right hand of God the Father also! We can picture ourselves as actually being there some day! In God's eyes we are already there! The Lord's victory in the angelic conflict is seen! What a royal place to be!!!



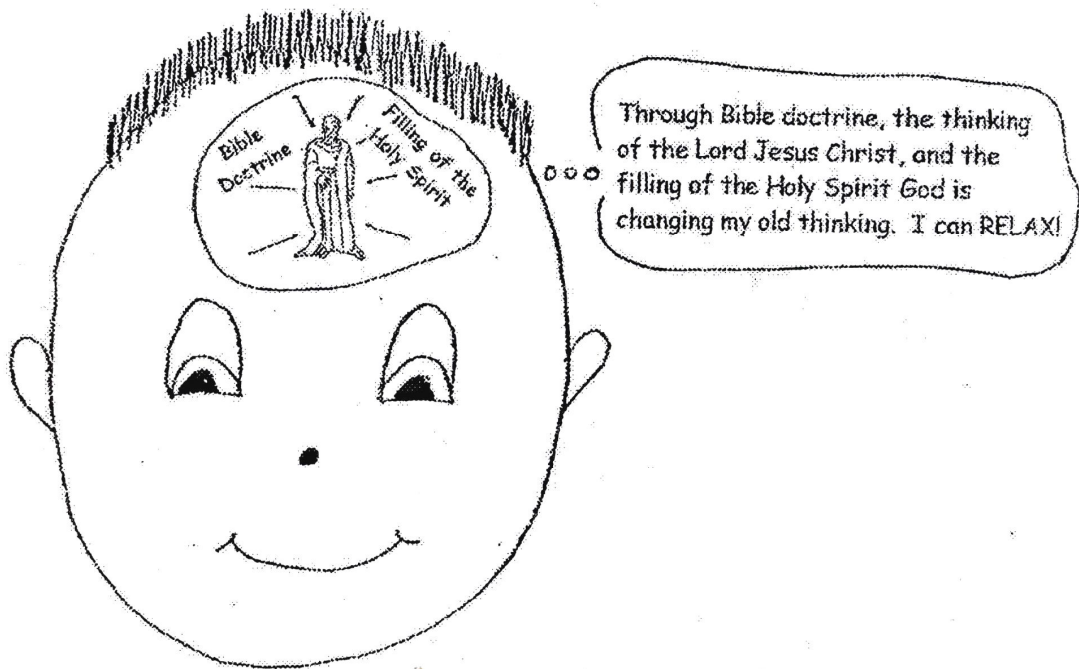
Titus 3:5-7 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness [goodness], but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ the Savior, so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Next, there is **experiential sanctification**. We experience **experiential sanctification** in time. This is when we are really living the spiritual life in God's predesigned plan. We are to experience God's goodness. Therefore, our objective is to take in doctrine and grow spiritually to maturity. The more Bible doctrine we learn, believe, and use, the more capacity we will have for life. Then the Holy Spirit will be able to produce good works in us for others. Unless we are filled with the Spirit and learning bible doctrine, **experiential sanctification** is impossible. We need to have God's viewpoint to fill our souls and push out human viewpoint. **Experiential sanctification** glorifies God in the angelic conflict. Glory be to God!!!



1 Thessalonians 4:1 Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.

Only mature believers with spiritual self-esteem and doctrine to the max in their souls are able to live in **experiential sanctification**. This means the experience of living the life set apart to God. It is also called the state of "godliness". And it doesn't come from living moral human good, self-righteous or even clean lives! As I said before, it comes from learning, believing, and using Bible doctrine which is divine viewpoint! We have to do this daily! We have to get away from human viewpoint and fill our souls with God's divine viewpoint! What are we thinking???



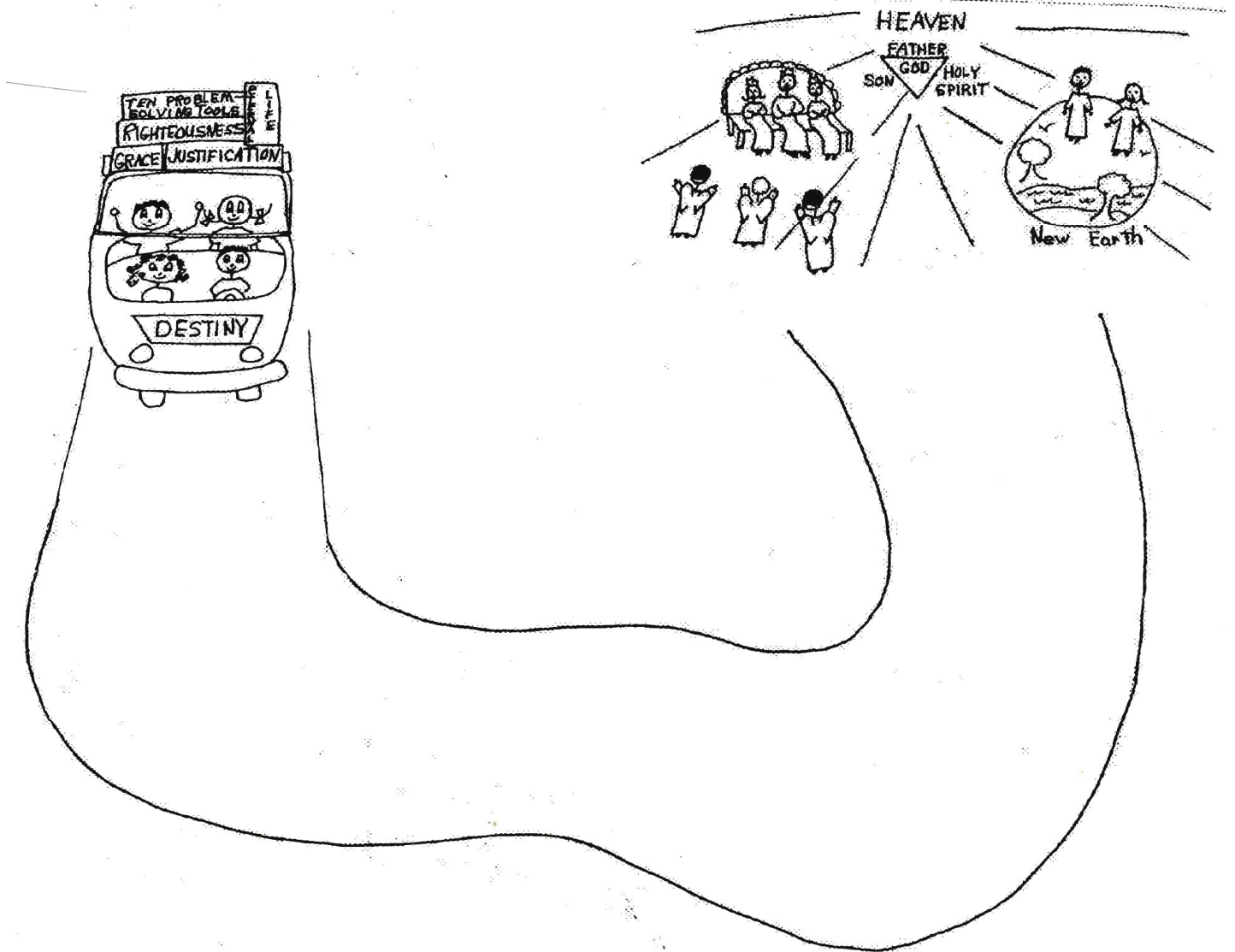
Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of you mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

The third sanctification is **ultimate sanctification**. This sanctification refers to us believers in the eternal state, **heaven!** It will take place at the Rapture of the church when each member of the Royal Family of God will receive a resurrected body. Those who reach maturity in time will receive eternal blessings and rewards. Winner believers will receive decorations and medals! God has magnificent blessings waiting for us in heaven.



Philippians 3:21 Who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

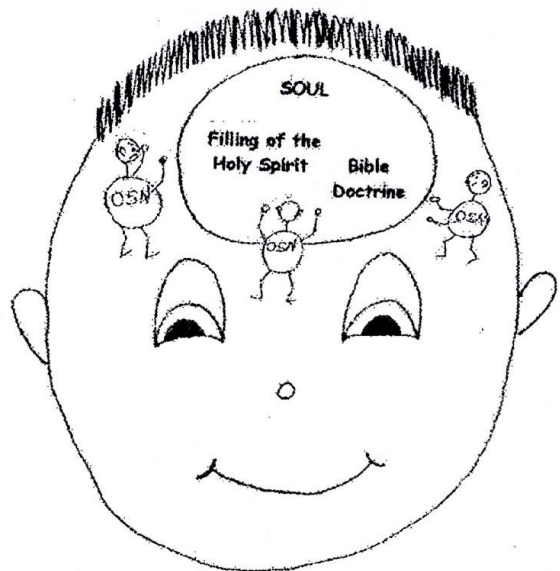
We need to keep going forward in His plan so that we can become winner believers and collect our rewards. We don't want to get to heaven and see our blessings just sitting in a treasure chest. We want to grow in God's grace, knowledge and wisdom so that we can have God say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Master." As the Royal Family of God in our resurrected bodies in **ultimate sanctification**, we become physically superior to all angels and replace angelic administration or angelic supervision. We'll be put in charge of something! Amazing grace! **Ultimate sanctification!**



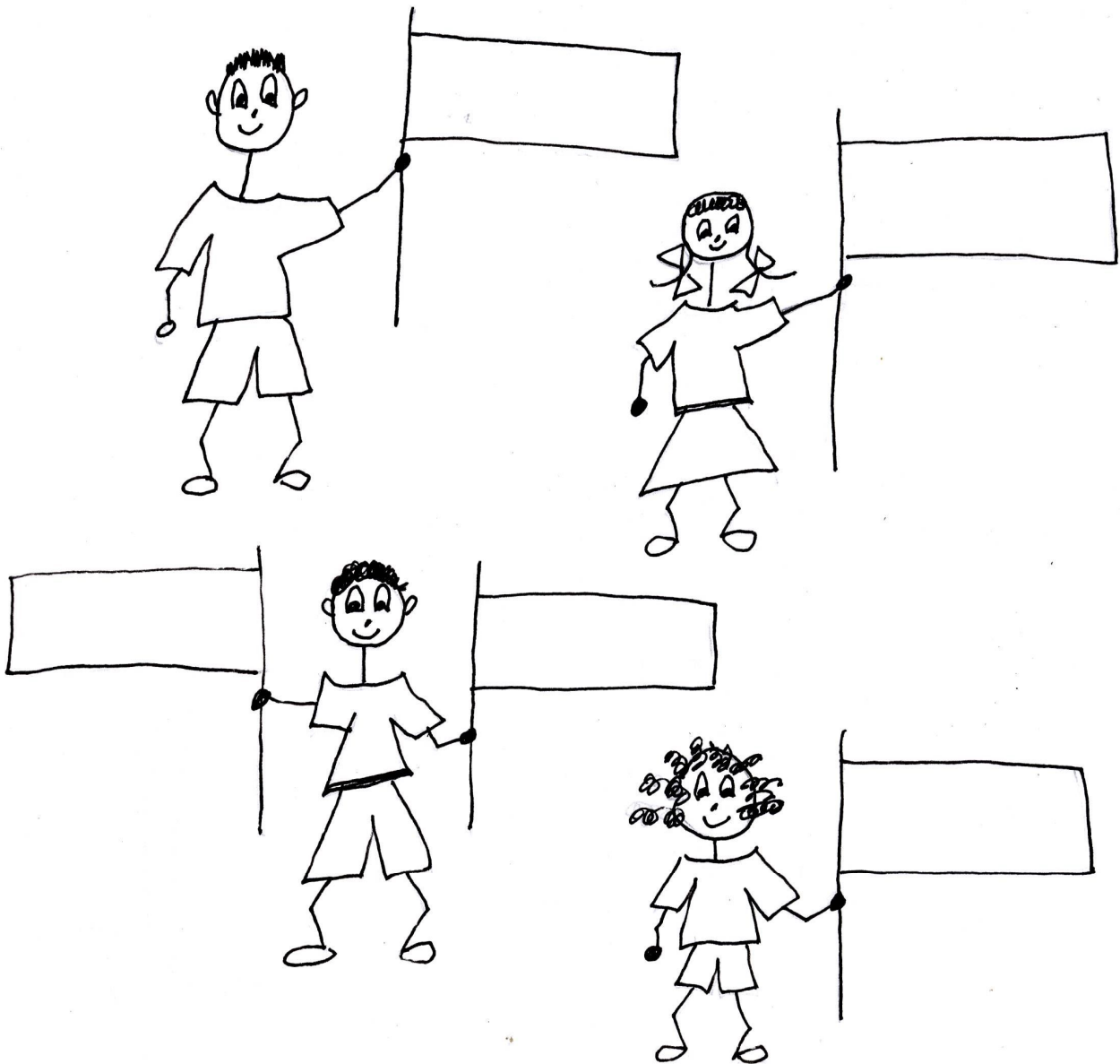
Activity Pages

Add your own things to the pictures and color.

Objectives of the Christian Life:
take in Bible doctrine daily
and grow spiritually.



Put these words in the flags:
sanctification, positional, experiential, ultimate,
Royal Family.



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References: Robert McLaughlin Bible Ministries
The Basics, Volume 1

Lessons: 12-5-06, 12-12-06