

The Real Lord's Prayer: John 17
Set Apart For Life and Ministry



**The Power of
Obeying the Truth**

Jesus did not pray that we would be removed from the world...but He did pray that the world would be removed from us!

Introduction: The Greek and Hebrew words for "sanctification," "saint," "dedication," "consecration," and "holiness" are all related to the idea of separation. In fact, the core concept of the term "sanctification" is separation. To be sanctified is to be set apart—set apart from sin in order to be set apart to God and to the reverent and joyful worship and service of God. *Systematic Theology, S. Horton*

A. Set Apart By Truth

Sanctify them by Your truth. John 17: 17

1. **Truth:** Truth here is both the Old and New Testaments and Jesus Himself who was the divine Word, the logos of *John 1:1*.
2. **The Word:** The Bible [God's Word] is an agent of sanctification—being set apart and being cleansed.
John 17:17; See 2 Kings 4:38-43 in the sidebar!

B. Set Apart From The World and Sin John 17:18

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Jn 17:14

1. **The Great Omission:** Unfortunately a significant part of the Great Commission is mostly left out of our evangelistic efforts:

Matt 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. :19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, :20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Only 'sanctified' believers are ready to be sent into the world.

C. Set Apart To the Word and Mission John 17:19

"I'm consecrating myself for their sakes

So they'll be truth-consecrated in their mission." Jn 17:19 MSG

1. **Obedience:** Jesus was obedient in fulfilling the mission that He was set apart for [The Cross]. *Phil 2:8; Heb 10:10*
Are we obedient to our mission? See "B" above!
2. **Our righteousness:** Jesus said, "...that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." *Mat 5:20*
3. **Pruning and righteousness:** Jesus said, "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit."
John 15:2
4. **Take up the cross:** Jesus said: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it." *Lk 9:23-24*

John 17:17-18 (NKJV)

:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

:18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

:19 And **for** their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

2 Kings 4:38-41 (NKJV)

:38 And Elisha returned to Gilgal, and there was a famine in the land. Now the sons of the prophets were sitting before him; and he said to his servant, "Put on the large pot, and boil stew for the sons of the prophets."

:39 So one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered from it a lapful of wild gourds, and came and sliced them into the pot of stew, though they did not know what they were.

:40 Then they served it to the men to eat. Now it happened, as they were eating the stew, that they cried out and said, "**Man of God, there is death in the pot!**" And they could not eat it.

:41 So he said, "**Then bring some flour.**" And he put it into the pot, and said, "Serve it to the people, that they may eat." And there was nothing harmful in the pot.

Being Sanctified

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18