



5.10.20 Building Faith: Jesus Christ Sanctifies for Delight

Hebrews 10:1-10

1) The Performance Track is Not All It's Cracked Up to Be (v. 1-4)

The Old Testament Law was never meant to save us (Galatians 2:16, 21; Romans 3:11; Habakkuk 2:4), but to show us our sin (Romans 3:20, 7:7). The sacrificial system, as part of that law, could never redeem us. Its repetition demonstrated its inadequacy (v. 2-3). God intended it to show us our need for a true redeemer.

But people learned the wrong lesson. They thought that by completing the checklist of instructions, they were making themselves "good enough." That's the performance track, which leads to depression, anxiety, self-righteousness, and judgmentalism -- and away from God.

How are we bent to prefer the performance track? Even though it is miserable why do we go back to it?

2) Jesus Regenerates You and Puts You on the Grace Track (v. 9)

Hebrews 10:5-7 of Hebrews 10 quote Psalm 40:6-7¹, written by David. These passages show that God's objective was never animal sacrifice. He wants true repentance (Psalm 51:16-17) and obedience (Hebrews 10:9). He's after our hearts.

Salvation in Christ isn't just redemption; it's sanctification -- setting us apart and transforming us so that we are fit for service to God. He doesn't just change our status or our habits; He changes our hearts. He continues to until He perfects us in His presence (<https://www.gotquestions.org/sanctification.html>).²

What does it mean that He sanctified us? Are you sure that you are sanctified? How are you unsure and will you ask someone about that this week?

¹ The Greeks translated the literal Hebrew of Psalm 40:6 ("ears you have bored for me") as "a body you have prepared for me." The author of Hebrews quoted the Greek translation. Both versions are about God preparing David for His service. Some commentators believe the author is also pointing to the incarnate ("made flesh") body of Christ prepared for sacrifice, and/or our eventual glorified bodies in Christ.

² The Old Testament predicts this new covenant and our sanctification in Jeremiah 31:31-34 (among other places). Chapters 8 and 9 of Hebrews delve into the new covenant establishment through Jesus' once-forever sacrifice.

3) Jesus Generates Delight in His will (v. 10)

When God tells us to do something, He doesn't want our performance. He wants our delight.

Loving His Will= Loving His Word (guidance) + Loving His Work (effort)

The Big Secret to living the Christian life is that it's impossible. But all things are possible with God (Matthew 19:26). We can't just seek to do better; we have to seek Him. He has to change our desires. We have to abide in Him (John 15:5), delight in Him (Psalm 37:4), and let Him transform us.

How can you enhance your delight to do His will? What promises and encouragements of God can enhance your delight in His purposes? What desires can we diminish?

I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart....But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!" - Psalm 40:8, 16

Scripture Guide

Ephesians 3:14-21

Psalm 133

Romans 13:12-14

Prayer Guide

This week we would like to continue to pray this special prayer from Kristen and Troy Mosley. Kristen is the Executive Director of a local women's care ministry that fights for the lives of unborn children and the spiritual lives of families contemplating abortion.

"God we thank you that you are the author and creator of life. Every life is created in your image and has purpose. Forgive us for not valuing each human life as you intended. We pray for those that have been impacted by abortion. That they would repent, and receive your forgiveness, healing, and redeeming love. Stir our hearts with greater passion to protect the unborn, the most vulnerable among us. We pray for women and men today who are considering abortion. That you would lead them to life-promoting people and resources and speak encouragement into their fearful hearts and allow them to experience your love and truth. We pray you would turn the hearts of the fathers of these unborn babies toward their child and the mother of the child and your plan for marriage and family will prevail. We pray for pastors and the body of Christ to boldly advocate for life and that our churches would be a safe, compassionate, and welcoming place to someone facing a crisis pregnancy.

We pray for pregnancy centers all over the nation and we thank you for the life-saving work you accomplish in each one. We pray that men and women facing pregnancy decisions will be

transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and empowered to choose life for their unborn children and abundant life for their families." (Kristen and Troy Mosley)

Pray for the Church (local and universal) to be a beacon of racial unity to the glory of God.

With racial division and racism a continued and wicked problem in a fallen world it is crucial that we pray for the Church to model unity in diversity to the glory of God. With the recent tragedy of Ahmaud Arbery's death racial division is spiked and disunity abounds. May the church be a beacon of redeemed humanity showing the world the unity we have in Christ which transcends the grievous racial fractures that are crouching at the door, and saturate the world. ****Be on the lookout for a prayer from Carl Shack (President of Christian Men United) next week on this pertinent issue.*

Pray for missionaries throughout the world.

Pray for the many missionaries throughout the world. Pray for doors to be opened for the advance of the gospel. Pray for many souls to be captured by Grace. Pray for the safety of the missionaries and provision for their ministries.