**Fourfold Gospel**

**The laver: Christ our Sanctifier**

The laver symbol represents the daily cleansing from sin by the power of the Holy Spirit. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness

 **I. The crisis and PROGRESSION of sanctification**

We’re saved from the of sin through salvation.

We’re saved from the of sin through sanctification.

Christ our Savior means he lives us.

Christ our Sanctifier means he lives us.

We have moments of decisions (our denomination calls this a crisis) where something clicks in our mind. At the point of salvation, we clicked in our minds, "aha, I was dead in my sins but Christ died on the cross for me! If I receive him as my Savior, I won’t be condemned to hell but get to be with him in heaven." Then there’s a second click, or crisis, in our head that says, "aha, I can’t live the way I used to live because of the Spirit that is controlling me." Those are more than likely not the exact words we used but they're along the same points.

1. The first crisis someone experiences in sanctification is when he or she realizes that they have been to sin.

*So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Rom. 6:11*

2. As someone begins the process of sanctification, they begin to be

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*"Regeneration is like building a house and having the work done well. Sanctification is having the owner come and dwell in the house and fill it with gladness and life and beauty." (A.B. Simpson, The Fourfold Gospel. 20)*

*If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5:25*

3. As a new believer begins to live the Christian life, he or she will notice that there is a with sin and dishonoring God.

*For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. Rom. 7:19-20*

We will progressively have crisis moments in our lives that molds us to be more like Christ every day.

**II. identification of the believer with Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension**

1. Sanctification is a continual working of God in the believers life and is a gift that was at the cross of Christ.

*And by that will we have been* ***sanctified*** *through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all... For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. Heb. 10:10, 14*

2. Sanctified believers realize that they have died in their sin, made alive in Christ, and will live for God's just as Christ died, rose again, and living for God's .

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20*

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. Rom. 8:11*

**III. THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN SANCTIFICATION**

1. The process of sanctification is in the power of the . Apart from God, we can do nothing.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5*

2. Sanctification involves a and filling of the Holy Spirit.

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you* ***completely****, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. 1 Thess. 5:23-24*

Jesus is the Sanctifier to conform us to his likeness when he works through us. The deeper Christian life is to be controlled and used by the Holy Spirit. It starts with a surrender at a crisis moment in our lives.

*"If you do not have it [sanctification] you are falling short of your redemption privileges." A.B. The Fourfold Gospel. Simpson, 26.*

**IV. REASONS WHY WE MAY NOT**

**BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1.

No one ever told us about the Holy Spirit. When we received Christ, we might have prayed a prayer or went forward to be saved from hell. We didn't know that the life we're supposed to live is to be controlled by the Holy Spirit. If we're wondering who is the Holy Spirit, this is probably the reason why we're not filled.

2.

We could be afraid of the changes in our life as we give up our old life. We might be pulled away from certain friends, even a significant other because of their influence in our life. It's something new that we've never experienced before.

3.

We're still holding onto the sin that God has already forgiven us of. Paul tells the church that as long as we're holding onto whatever sin is in our life; we're missing out on the life that God has created us to live, actually grieve the Holy Spirit, and miss being filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit.

*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Eph. 4:30*

4.

We just don't want the Holy Spirit. We just don't care about our spiritual life and are willing to just live the rest of our life in continual unfulfillment and disappointment.

 **V. HOW TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1.

Thirst is the opposite of apathy. Only those who are yearning and wanting God are satisfied in life. You have to really want to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Matthew 5:6*

2.

Have you every prayed for the Holy Spirit to fill you? Simply pray to God and ask him to fill you with him.

*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek , and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7*

3.

In order to fill something, it needs to be emptied first. In order to empty ourselves, we need to surrender our mind, body, and soul to God.

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Romans 12:1*

4.

We can't fill ourselves up with the Holy Spirit or sanctify ourselves. It's all the work of God. As we stay close to God, he works through us until we are his perfect masterpiece.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5*