

December 28, 2021

The **faithfulness** of the Father: He sets us apart as His own.

1 Thess. 5:23-24, *“May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One Who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.”* (NIV)

To sanctify means *to set apart for a purpose*. Paul uses a Greek word for sanctify that is only used once in scripture. The word is **holoeleis** which is a combination of two Greek words put together: *holos* which means ‘whole, entire’ and *telos* which means ‘end.’ This means reaching the intended goal. This principle was also spoken of in **Phil. 1:4-6** *“In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He Who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”* (NIV) This is the sanctifying work of the LORD.

And because He has set us apart as His own, He will continue to keep us ready for His use. There is a joy that comes from knowing that the LORD is the One Who has done this. We cannot achieve this in our own power or by our own strength. It is impossible because we are flawed, and because of our sin, we would be deemed unfit for the task. **But God... Eph. 2:4-5**, *“But because of His great love for us, God, Who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.”* (NIV) In every aspect of our salvation, He has done this so that we could be set apart to do His work here on earth. The One Who calls you is faithful, and He will do it!

We must be reminded today, that because He paid for us with His precious blood, He now has a plan and purpose for our lives. **2 Cor. 5:20**, *“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”* (NIV)

Dear LORD, thank You for setting us apart for Your purpose. In Your eyes, we are made holy and whole. You desire to use us as Your voice for this world. We were hopeless and flawed, But God.... in Your great love and compassion, gave us new life. Thank You LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen