

While you have been justified and made righteous by the blood of Jesus, or perfected forever, sanctification is an ongoing process in your growth as a Christian. A believer should never grow lax and take sin lightly, but always live a God-glorifying life. This is why the author of the book of Hebrews says that we are being sanctified even though we are perfected forever by Christ's one act of obedience at the Cross. As a believer you cannot become more righteous, but you can become more sanctified or holy in terms of how you live your life. Justification by faith happened instantaneously - the moment you received Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour, you were forgiven, cleansed, perfected in righteousness, and saved. You were also sanctified in Christ. (Hebrews 10:10) However, it is important to understand that the revelation and outworking of your sanctification in Christ is progressive. This means that the more you grow in your relationship with the Lord Jesus, the more holy you will become in every area of your life. Merriam-Webster Online describes sanctification as "the state of growing in divine grace as a result of Christian commitment after conversion."

You see, it is all about growing in grace. Establish yourself in the gospel of grace. Paul told Timothy to be "strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus". (2 Timothy 2:1) Peter encouraged believers to build a strong foundation with these closing words in his last epistle: "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18) Grace produces true holiness. The more you grow in grace, the more you grow in sanctification and holiness, and the more you allow the Holy Spirit to correct habits and thinking that keep you in bondage. When you experience the grace of our Lord Jesus, the attraction and passing pleasures of sin fade in the light of His glory and grace. It will set you free to have the kind of relationship you have always longed for with God, one that is intimate, powerful, and full of peace, joy, and good fruit!

Hebrews 10:12,14 "But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God...For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."