

# What Kind of Church Do We Want To Be?

May He make your hearts blameless in holiness before  
our God and Father... 1 Thessalonians 1:3

A few things to note about this request:

1. The end result is that they **BE** holy and blameless before the Lord.

2. On our own, we are neither holy  
nor blameless.

3. He asks God to do this because we aren't capable of doing this on our own. "May He make your hearts..."

4. This process is called sanctification.

5. It is the process whereby God takes men dead in their sin and brings them to life in Christ, molding them into the likeness of His Son.

6. Sanctification is a life long  
process.

7. If our hearts appear to have changed but our habits don't, we are unrepentant.

8. If our habits change but our hearts don't, our holiness is a mere act.

9. Genuine holiness is the result of God changing our nature and our making the choices He is leading us to make.

10. Sanctification leads to purity not perfection.

11. Genuine holiness begins in our minds, permeates our hearts, captures our will and attitudes, flows from our lips and impacts our choices and treatment of others.

12. Genuine purity is not simply adhering to a dress, speech or moral code.

13. Many of us are better at “acting”  
holy than being “holy.”



# 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

James 1:26, 27

Malachi 1:6-9