

# Word Study Method – Sample Study

## ***Word Being Studied: Sanctification***

### **1. Select the Word**

**Word Being Studied:** Sanctification

**Why this word matters in the passage you are reading:** Sanctification describes the process by which believers are set apart for God and progressively transformed in holiness. Many people think the word simply means trying to live a better life, but Scripture presents sanctification as the ongoing work of God in those who have been saved through Christ.

### **2. Find Key Passages**

Passage	Immediate Context	Notes
1 Thessalonians 4:3	Instruction about moral purity	Sanctification is called the will of God.
John 17:17	Jesus praying for His disciples	Connected to truth and God's Word.
Hebrews 10:10	Christ's sacrifice explained	Grounded in Christ's atoning work.
Romans 6:22	Freedom from sin described	Sanctification is fruit of salvation.
2 Thessalonians 2:13	Description of salvation	Connected to the Spirit's work.

### **3. Examine the Original Word**

**Greek Word:** ἁγιασμός (hagiasmos)

**Strong's Number:** G38

**Basic Lexical Meaning:** Consecration, purification, being set apart as holy.

**Other related translations:** holiness, consecration, sanctifying work.

### **4. Compare Contexts**

Passage	Situation	How the word functions here
1 Thessalonians 4:3	Instruction about moral purity	Turning away from sin.
Hebrews 10:10	Christ's sacrifice explained	Sanctification begins through Christ's sacrifice.
John 17:17	Prayer for believers	Occurs through God's truth.
Romans 6:22	Freedom from sin	Result of being freed from sin.
2 Thessalonians 2:13	Description of salvation	Connected to the Spirit's transforming work.

## 5. Synthesize the Meaning

### Patterns observed:

- Sanctification begins with Christ's saving work.
- The Holy Spirit actively produces sanctification.
- God's Word is a key instrument in sanctification.
- Sanctification results in practical holiness.
- Sanctification continues throughout the believer's life.

**Themes connected to the word:** Holiness, transformation, obedience, separation from sin, spiritual growth.

**Verses that best define the word:** Hebrews 10:10, John 17:17, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Romans 6:22.

## 6. Biblical Definition

Sanctification is the work of God, accomplished through Christ and applied by the Holy Spirit, by which believers are set apart for God and progressively transformed into holiness through the truth of His Word.

## 7. Application

Sanctification is not merely self-improvement or moral effort. It is the continuing work of God in those who belong to Him. Because believers have already been set apart through Christ, they now grow in holiness through the Spirit and through the truth of Scripture.