

To facilitate these objectives, I would propose a set of "regulative principles relevant to the pursuit of holiness."

REGULATIVE PRINCIPLES RELEVANT TO THE PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

1. Realize that, if you have savingly believed on Christ, you have not only been justified; you have been experientially united to Christ and to all of the benefits of His redemption.
2. Realize that, if you have been experientially united to Christ, you have died to the master of the sin-principle, and have been made alive to the mastery of the righteousness-principle. Sin can never again be your master!
3. Recognize the fact that, although the righteousness-principle is your new master, still it is possible for you to be unfaithful to your master, and to allow your old master, the sin-principle (which is still active in you), to regain temporary rule over your faculties, and to produce unrighteous acts.
4. Recognize therefore the fact that, if you are justified and regenerate, then you have the ability to do good (because of the righteousness-principle in you) as well as the ability to do evil (because of the sin-principle remaining in you).
5. Recognize the fact that there is an important distinction between what a person is, and what a person is becoming; and recognize the fact that you are becoming (as a pattern, a life-style, a general long-range tendency) is a fairly accurate indicator of what you are.
6. Realize that, just as at one time the sin-principle actively exerted mastery in and over you, so now the righteousness-principle actively exerts mastery in and over you.
7. Recognize the fact that each new moment of becoming carries with it the potentiality for good as well as the possibility of evil.
8. Recognize the fact that there is an important distinction between what you are becoming and what you ought to be becoming.
9. Recognize the fact that each new moment of becoming carries with it an obligation to decide to become what you ought to become.
10. Recognize the fact that you are a love-debtor to Christ to decide at each moment to deny actuality to the possibility of evil and to actualize your potentiality for good.
11. Recognize the fact that mere realization and recognition of these principles does not automatically guarantee that you will actualize your potentiality for good, but that you must have the enablement of the indwelling Holy Spirit in order both to decide for good, and to do it!
12. Realize that, having yielded yourself to the mastery of Christ, and having prayed for the enablement of the Holy Spirit, it is necessary for you to will to do good, and it is necessary for you to do it!