

Be More Like Jesus



How can a young person stay pure?
By obeying God's Word.
(See Psalm 119:9 NLT.)



What did King David mean when he said this?

He was referring to how reading and obeying God's Word cleans our hearts and minds from sinful influences that sometimes surrounds us.

Every day we come into contact with attitudes, ideas, and a variety of ways to live and do things. Some of these are good and godly, and some are not. King David was saying that God's Word is needed to guide us in knowing what is good for us and what isn't.



When Jesus lived on earth, He prayed for His followers: "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17 NIV).

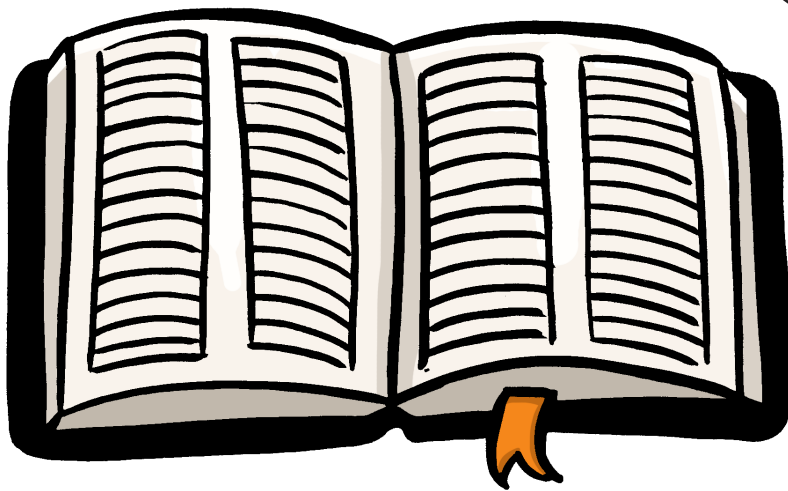
"Sanctify" means to free someone from sin. Jesus was asking His heavenly Father to use the Word to cleanse His followers.



God's Word not only cleans your heart and mind from wrong attitudes you might encounter, but it also protects you from absorbing them.

When you read the Bible stories, you learn about God's love. When you hear something that is different from the loving truth explained in the Bible, you will know that it is wrong if you have studied the Bible.

...You are My followers
if you are faithful to what I teach.
And then you will know the
truth for how to live the best life
(John 8:31-32, *paraphrased*).



For example, you might watch a TV show about children who disobey their parents. The Bible teaches that children should obey their parents. If you have read in the Bible where it explains that it is best for children to obey their parents, you will know that the way the children behave on the TV show is not a good example for you to follow.

The Word tells you:

"Children, always obey your
parents, for this pleases the Lord"
(Colossians 3:20 NLT).



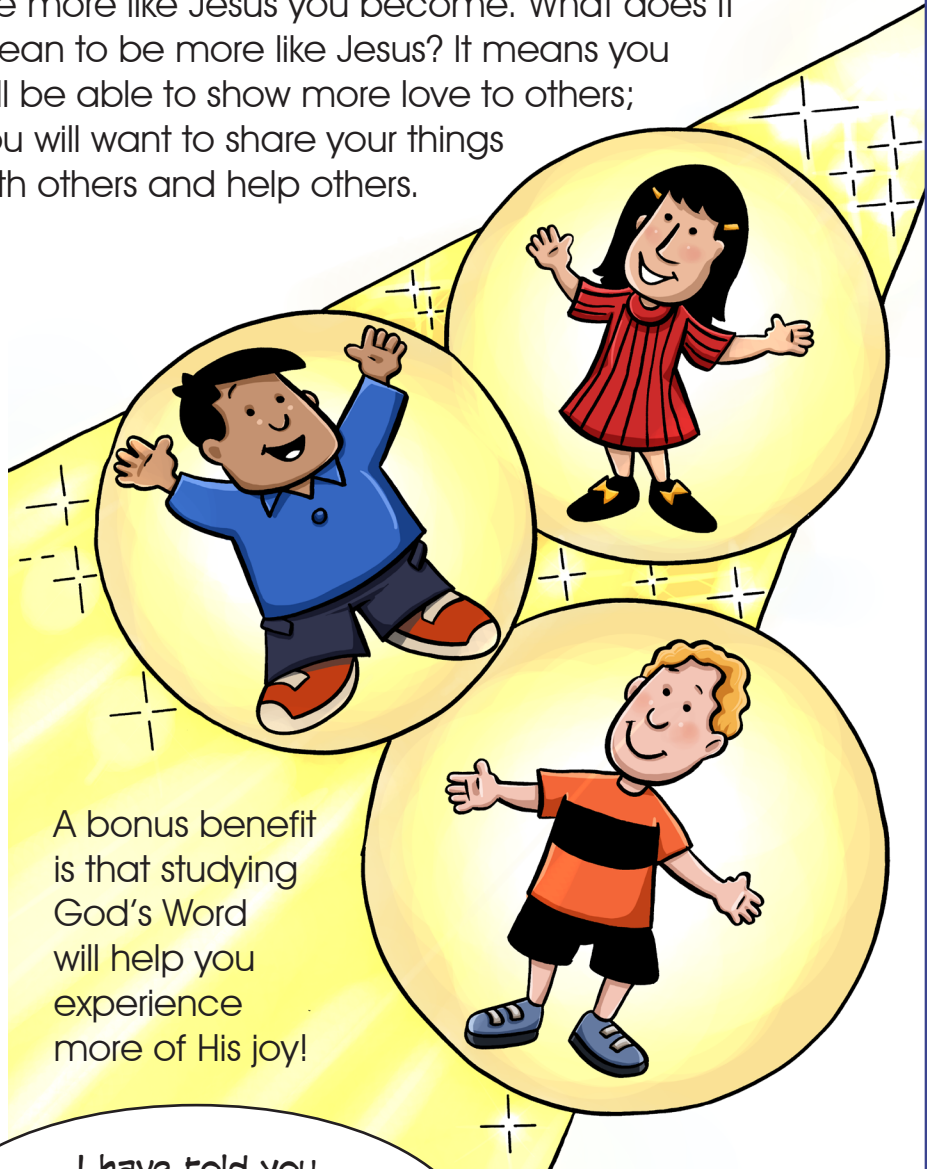
True or False

Adam and Eve got into trouble when they
stopped listening to and obeying God.¹

¹ For the answer read
the story in Genesis 3.



The more of God's Word that you read and obey the more like Jesus you become. What does it mean to be more like Jesus? It means you will be able to show more love to others; you will want to share your things with others and help others.



A bonus benefit is that studying God's Word will help you experience more of His joy!

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! (John 15:11 NLT).

