



Titus 2:11-14



Slow down to go forward.



“A very common question to any plan for spiritual formation among church members is, ‘How can we speed this up?’ The consumer culture in which we live is a world of consumption, assertiveness, speed, and fame.



Impatience is the most accepted sin in Western culture...The problem with impatience is that it short-circuits the forming of Christ in persons. With a consumer mentality, there is no basis to enter into a life of submission and humility.



They begin to believe that if they can get a handle on this character flaw of uncontrolled anger in the next two months, it will be taken care of. If it doesn't work, then they need to find a better teacher, church, curriculum, husband, wife, or workplace.



Changing my circumstances will
change me.”

- **Bill Hull**



Slow down to go forward.



Titus 2:11-14



For the grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation for all people.

Titus 2:11



Justification:

Through our faith in Jesus, God takes our sin and gives us Christ's righteousness.



Justified in an instant.



For the grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation for all people,
training us to renounce ungodliness
and worldly passions, and to live
self-controlled, upright, and godly
lives in the present age.

Titus 2:11-12



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Titus 2:11-12



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Titus 2:11-12



Sanctification:

The process by which, by the grace of God, we say “no” to sin and “yes” to God more and more.



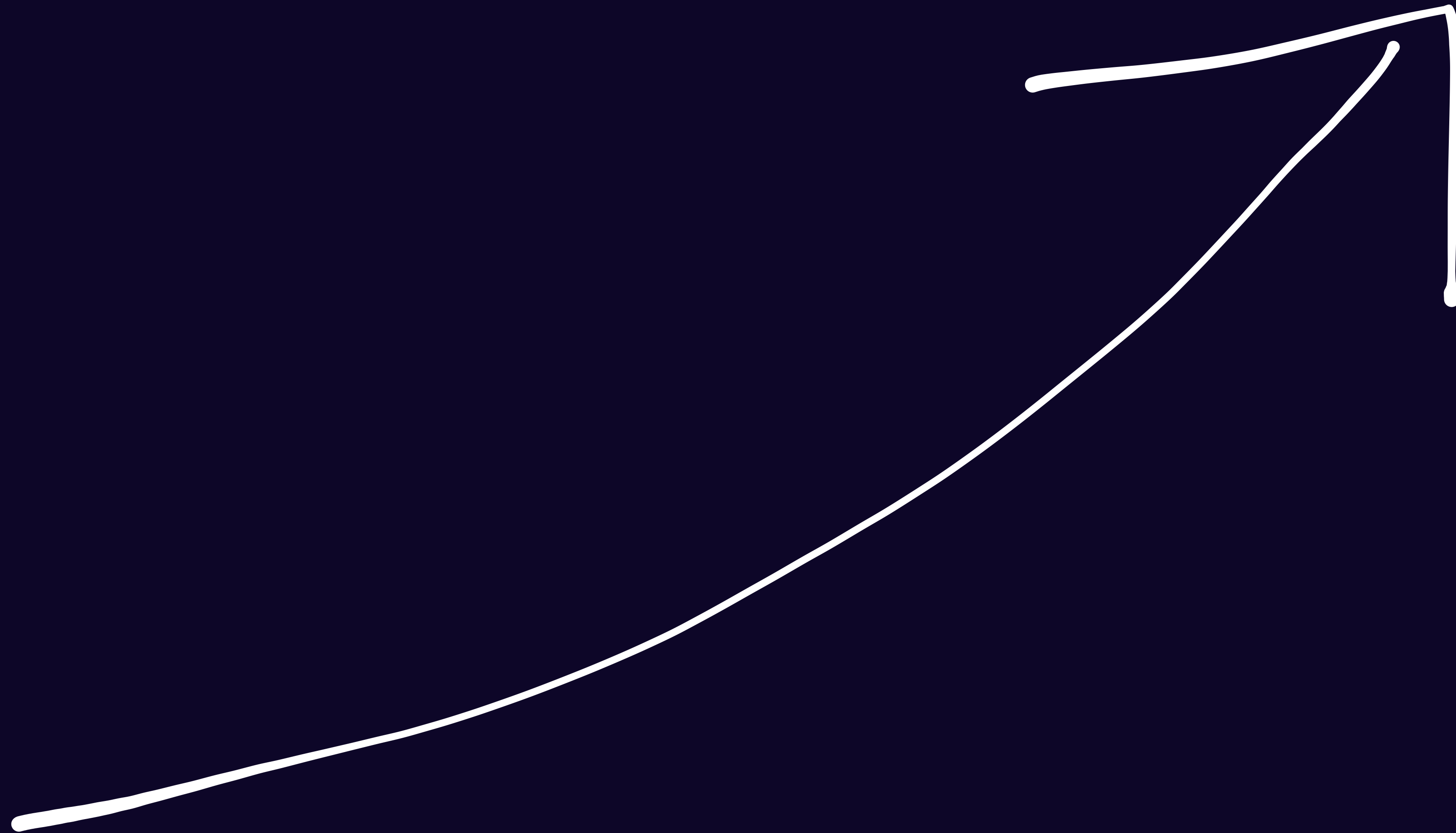
Justified in an instant.



Justified in an instant.
Sanctified over a lifetime.



Sanctification:



Sanctification:



Sanctification:



Emotional maturity, like all parts of our sanctification, is a long game.



Slow Down to Go Forward:



Slow Down to Go Forward:

1. Patience



Slow Down to Go Forward:

1. Patience

2. Perseverance



We often want the painless quick fix in our sanctification, like a guilt-free diet that demands no sacrifice or the PowerBar that will give us the carbs we need for the next half-hour's activity. We have become consumers of religion rather than cultivators of a spiritual life.



As if we believed the infomercial that promises great abs if we just buy the right piece of equipment for \$39.95, we think that the secret to being a spiritually fit Christian can be had by finding some secret technique or buying the most recent hot-selling inspirational devotional.



Maturity in the Christian life does not come in these ways...[There is no] substitute for the unspectacular training and diet that we must engage in if we are going to become mature Christians.”

- Dennis Okholm



Slow Down to Go Forward:

1. Patience

2. Perseverance



Slow Down to Go Forward:

1. Patience
2. Perseverance
3. God's Grace



Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Galatians 3:2-3



God is more committed us to
looking like Jesus than we are.



Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness

Titus 2:13-14



and to purify for himself a people
for his own possession who are
zealous for good works.

Titus 2:13-14



Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness

Titus 2:13-14



Justified in an instant.
Sanctified over a lifetime.



Justified in an instant.
Sanctified over a lifetime.
Glorified for eternity.



Slow down to go forward.

