

# *~ Solid Foundation of Maneuvers ~ Bringing Mechanical to Mental*

## **4 Things Needed To Prevent Resistance**

- A) Willing submission
- B) Good communication
- C) Balanced life to direction ratio
- D) **Solid foundation of maneuvers**
  - 1) **Mechanical**
  - 2) **Mental**

## **3 Steps in Bringing Mechanical F of M to Mental F of M, Resulting in Perfection**

Salvation = Lateral movement of hindquarters (freely), Stage 1.

Sanctification = Direction – Suppleness through the poll and loin.

Justification = Perfection – No resistance, moving in perfect unity.

There are 3 steps in bringing a mechanical foundation of maneuvers to a mental foundation of maneuvers: salvation, sanctification, and justification. Stage 1 is the most important step in the foundation of maneuvers. Stage 1 allows us to keep control of the horse in high self-preservation situations. When a horse's self-preservation is engaged they want their hindquarters underneath themselves for "fight or flight." The hindquarters are the powerhouse of the horse and they enable the horse to buck, run, or rear. Once the hindquarters are "disengaged" (no longer pushing the horse), all the power of the horse's self-preservation is taken away. Although the horse may be tight and scared, we can still keep the horse from falling apart if we have Stage 1 (submitted hindquarters). **"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid" (Psalm 27:1)**. It is through salvation (Stage 1) that we can keep our horse from losing confidence. **"By terrible things in righteousness wilt though answerer us, O God of our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth" (Psalm 65:5)**.

Salvation/submission (Stage 1) is the most important thing in the foundation of maneuvers. We must have an understanding that Christ died for us, and through His blood we can be freed of sin and become born again into the Kingdom of God. When we accept the Lord into our heart, we submit our life to Him and say we will no longer be driven by our own self-preservation (flesh). We give Him control of our life and say we will seek His will for our life. **"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10)**. Although we receive salvation through believing in our heart and confession with our mouth, salvation is far from a one-step process. **"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12)**.

Think of the wrecks that we would get into with our horses if they only submitted their hindquarters once. It is through getting tight and scared and resubmitting their hindquarters over and over that their self-preservation is killed off, and sanctification and justification are

attainable. **“For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings” (Hebrews 2:10).** It is through experiencing discomfort that comfort can be appreciated. It is through losing confidence that we can gain confidence in someone greater than ourselves. **“And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation” (2 Corinthians 1:6).** Just like a young horse, we must continually resubmit our lives over to the Lord (Stage 1) on a weekly, daily, and hourly basis. **“O Lord, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble” (Isaiah 33:2).**

It is through salvation (Stage 1) that sanctification (direction) can be attained. Sanctification comes from the Greek word meaning *purification*, (the state) of *purity* and was translated to holiness and sanctification. It is only through salvation that we can be purified. We can be purified only through the blood of Christ and the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit, **“Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied” (1 Peter 1:2).** Salvation and sanctification go hand in hand. We attain salvation through sanctification, **“because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:13),** and we become sanctified through resubmitting our life to God and becoming cleansed by the Holy Ghost. **“That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost” (Romans 15:16).**

Sanctification (direction) is the most important thing that I teach in my class and it is the most important thing that Jesus taught as well. **“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (Act 26:18).** If you wish to attain true unity with your horse you must learn how to achieve direction (suppleness through the poll and loin/removing self-preservation), and if you wish to attain true unity with the Lord you must learn how to become sanctified (purified, cleansed of sin). Just like our horse, it is a daily process, not a once in a lifetime event. Whenever we feel self-preservation start to build up in the horse, we need to remember Stage 1 (submit the hindquarters) and then bring direction to the body (suppleness through the poll and loin). The same is true in our own life. When we feel our self-preservation (flesh) start to swell up, we need to submit our life over to God (Stage 1), and then ask for the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit to come and wipe away the stiffness (sin) that has crept into our body. The Holy Spirit (comforter, soft feel) then wipes away our self-preservation and leaves us in total peace (supple poll and loin).

Becoming sanctified was a very important factor in the Old Testament, **“Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the Lord your God. And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: I am the Lord which sanctify you” (Leviticus 20:7-8),** and it is just as important under the New Covenant, **“And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth” (John 17:19).** No one could come near God in the Old

Testament without first becoming sanctified (**Leviticus 21:21-23**) and the same is true today. We cannot enter into the Holy of Holies with sin, and it is the sanctification process that cleanses us of our sin. However, through Jesus' blood we are sanctified once and for all. **“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all” (Hebrews 10:10)**. By the blood of Jesus and the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit we can be cleansed from sin once and for all, and have free access to God in the Holy of Holies. It is just a matter of staying “in” Him and not falling into our self-preservation.

Once we have salvation and sanctification, justification follows right after. “Justification” comes from a Greek word meaning *an equitable deed*, by implication *statute* or *decision* and was translated to judgment, justification, ordinance, righteousness. “Justified” comes from the Greek word meaning *to render just or innocent* and was translated to free, justify, be righteous. Through the blood of Christ and the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit we are washed of our sins (salvation/sanctification) and become justified before God. **“And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:11)**. Once we have been sanctified (direction) there is no longer any self-preservation left in our bodies and we are totally submitted to the will of God. We have willing submission, good communication, a balanced life to direction ratio, and experience a mental foundation of maneuvers. We are riding in absolute perfection.

These are the 3 stages of bringing a mechanical foundation of maneuvers to a mental foundation of maneuvers. It doesn't matter which mechanical stage we are in, Stage 1 (stopping forward motion pivoting around the inside front foot), Stage 2 (hindquarters pulling the horse in a reverse motion), Stage 3 (lateral movement of shoulders and hindquarters together), or Stage 4 (stopping forward motion pivoting around the inside hind foot). A horse must go through the 3 steps I have just mentioned in order to attain perfection. A person must be able to move the hindquarters freely (salvation/submission), be supple through the poll and loin (direction/sanctification, removing self-preservation) and the final step is justification, riding in absolute perfection, true unity, and willing communication. In order to stop the forward motion and pivot around the inside front foot, the hindquarters obviously have to be submitted. To use the hindquarters to pull the horse in a reverse motion, we must have Stage 1 and then bring the life into the back. To move the shoulders and hindquarters together we start by moving the hindquarters (Stage 1) and then move the shoulders. Finally, if we are having problems in Stage 4 we need to get the hindquarters freed up. In every mechanical stage of a foundation of maneuvers we must first go through salvation (hindquarters), sanctification (direction) and finally justification (perfection).

To explain this concept a little further I will give an example of working with a young horse. The first thing I do with a horse is attain horizontal direction standing and build a solid foundation in Stage 1. Horizontal direction means to lightly take the slack out of the rein and have them put the slack back in the rein breaking in the poll. Solid Stage 1 is pivoting around the inside front foot with willing submission (after initial contact with the rein and calf, the horse performs the task on a loose rein and no leg pressure, it's the horse's idea). I want the hindquarters to move like an oiled-up hinge, where I can lightly bring my calf into them and have them swing a quarter of a turn either direction on their own, pivoting around the front feet.

Once I have horizontal direction standing and Stage 1, I then put the 2 together and this is how I get “direction.”

I will ride the horse forward and lightly take the slack out of the rein. If the horse does not give with suppleness through the poll and loin, I do not pull harder. I just stop the forward motion and pivot around the inside front foot a quarter of a turn (Stage 1), and then walk forward again. I keep doing this and pretty soon the reins will get tied to the horse’s feet, so to speak. When I take the slack out of the rein the horse will be thinking about stopping and pivoting around the inside front foot (swinging his hindquarters out), and will begin to put the slack in the rein on his own. Pretty soon the horse will not let the slack come out of the rein and will walk in a perfect circle with suppleness through the poll and loin (direction). The important thing is that we have willing submission. I consider a horse to have good direction when I can make a full circle without taking the slack out of the rein and without bringing my leg into them. After initial contact, they should put slack back in the rein and complete a perfect circle on their own. If I do the same thing at a slow trot, trot, and lope, then I never have any problems with my circles or leads. The only time we have problems with our circles, leads, or spins for that matter, is when we lose direction, when they become tight through the poll and loin and begin to operate through unwilling submission.

Direction to this extent can only come if we have perfect submission of the hindquarters. The same is true with the Lord. We cannot attain sanctification (direction), if we have not submitted our entire life to the Lord. If we are still living our life being driven by our self-preservation (flesh), we have no hope of becoming sanctified and attaining perfection in Christ Jesus. Start with salvation/submission, give your life to the Lord, and ask Him to cleanse you of all your sins. Submit to His authority and let the Holy Spirit wipe away all your self-preservation (stiff poll and loin). When the comforter comes, He will take away everything that is holding you back from true unity and you will become justified. You will begin to operate in the perfect will of God with willing submission, good communication, a balanced life to direction ratio, and a solid foundation of maneuvers.