

DAY 18

The final way the Devil tries to keep you from being holy that we will talk about is this:

He'll make you a Hermit.

This belief says you're only holy if you become a recluse. The truth is, God never calls us to be loners. On the contrary, Jesus told us in **Matthew 5** that we are to "*salt and light*," and in **Matthew 28**, He tells us to go into all the world and spread His Gospel. These actions indicate that we are to be an example of holiness to the people around us who know and don't know Jesus.

Even the Apostle Peter wrote, "**Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.**" (1 Peter 2:12)

Here's the point: **Holiness is not loneliness** – but the Devil would like you to think so.

If he can't keep you from knowing Jesus, he will try and keep you from growing in Jesus. How? By making you believe that your faith is personal. He takes the truth of salvation and twists it. Of course, our decision to follow Jesus is personal, but it was never meant to be private. Satan knows that you will grow in holiness if you go public with your faith. He knows that public faith is concerned about its witness and living as an example to the people around them.

That is the nature of living holy. Holiness is not only a work of God in your life but an example to the world around us. When people encounter the holiness of God in their life, it impacts them. Why? Because they see something different in you. And the only way for people to see the holy work of God in you is for you to live it out in front of them.

READ: Matthew 5:13-16, 28:19-20, Romans 1:16-17

JOURNAL (Reflect):

- Lord, when you look at my life would you describe me as a witness for you?
- What kind of witness for you am I?
- Lord, what do I need to do to become more courageous in my witness for you?

- Would those around me describe me as different in how I think and act? Would they see me as holy?

PRAY:

- Repent of any areas in your life that are negatively impacting your witness for God.
- Ask God to give you a fresh filling of His Holy Spirit so you can be the witness He has made you to be. (Read Acts 1:8)