

We will move onto agreement, but we will revisit how God speaks throughout the rest of the days of this devotional. I hope you can feel the firm foundation that is being carefully built under your feet.

Day 8

- How do we come into agreement with the devil? This is a big question.
 - There are the obvious ways we have already discussed, such as sin. Let me take a moment here to discuss the difference between sin and iniquity. Sin is the initial ACT of sinning, the lustful thought, the gossip we just turned to someone and shared, the lie we told to our boss, the explosive rage we just had in the car in front of our kids...those are examples of sin. All sin separates us from God because God cannot abide (live in) sin. (Isaiah 59:2).
 - Does that mean Jesus and Holy Spirit leave the inside of us the moment we sin? No, but it does mean that sin has now entered our life, and if we don't heed the conviction of Holy Spirit and confess the sin before the Lord and ask forgiveness, that sin will take root, and if it is allowed to grow, it will become iniquity.
 - Iniquity is a life of sin. It is the place we come to when we have ignored the conviction of Holy Spirit and not only not chosen to repent of the sin, we have continued to walk in that sin, and most likely, we have now added a bunch of other sins to the iniquity.
 - Again, has Jesus and Holy Spirit left us? No, but sin takes us out of the place of "living according to the Spirit" and puts us right back into "living according to the flesh." Romans 8:5. If we have sin in our life, we cannot hear God clearly.
 - It is like Peter, when he got out of the boat and walked to Jesus on the water; as long as he had his whole focus on Jesus, he could walk on water. But the moment he took his eyes off of Jesus and noticed the storm, fear (sin) set in, and he quickly sank into the stormy waves. Now, he cried out to Jesus, and Jesus IMMEDIATELY reached out and saved him. (Matthew 14:25-32)
 - There is so much in this portion of scripture, from the fact that Peter was the only one bold enough to ask to come to Jesus on the water, to seeing the word picture of what happens to us when we sin, to the moment we cry out, God always rescues us. Sometimes, it isn't as dramatic as Peter on the water, but the pattern is the same.
 - What do we learn here from Peter? First, we learn that we have the right to walk on water...let's just put that out there, but we will save that for the days we talk about dominion and authority. Second, we learn that as long as we are fully focused on God, nothing can touch us, even if a storm is raging around us. Which reminds us that "no weapon formed against us will prosper," Isaiah 54:17. Third, when we take our eyes off of Jesus, we are actually turning our head toward sin...
- Let's stop and unpack that. This is where we come into agreement with Satan. Remember the definition of agreement? The act or state of agreeing or **conforming**; an act or state of agreeing between two parties regarding a course of action. Deal, pact, understanding. A **LEGALLY BINDING** arrangement between parties: **covenant**.
 - Okay, so KEY, the ACT of taking our eyes off of Jesus and turning our focus anywhere else is a form of agreement. Now, in that moment of turning our eyes away from Jesus, we have two choices, recognize what we have done and turn our eyes back to Jesus, OR succumb to the sin (fear, lust, rage, hate, slander, gossip, etc.) and come into FULL AGREEMENT with Satan.
 - Once we ignore the conviction of God and come into agreement with Satan through sin, we have LEGALLY opened a door to him to come and torment us. This is why we are told, "Put on the WHOLE armor of God, that you may be able to

stand against the wiles of the devil.” Ephesians 6:11. These tools I’m laying out for us are all part of our armor. Remember, the weapon we have against the devil is, “the sword of the Spirit, which is the WORD of God.” Ephesians 6:17. That sword includes all of the wisdom and tactics we learn through scripture as well as the WORDS themselves, which we can use when we “live according to the Spirit.” We cannot use them when “we live according to the flesh,” because they are spiritual weapons; they must be used through Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:5)

- “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.” John 15:4. Abide - to dwell or reside, live.

- When Satan has a legal door into our lives through sin, this is where things like the spirit of fear begin to creep in, or the spirit of confusion, the spirit of doubt, and especially the spirit of condemnation. Because we took our eyes off of Jesus and allowed sin in, we are now SUBJECT to these vile creatures, yes SUBJECT.
- This is why scripture warns us, “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and DO NOT be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.” Galatians 5:1. If it were not possible to become bound again by sin, which means it is once again our task master, it would not be given to us as a warning in scripture. Remember, “My people are DESTROYED for lack of knowledge.” Hosea 4:6.
- Have we lost our Salvation? NO, we have not, yet we can be totally delivered from all sin, yet CHOOSE to partner with sin again by coming into agreement with the enemy of our soul.
- I see agreement as turning our eyes...remember the old hymn, “turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace.” If you don’t, look it up. It is perfect for what we are talking about. When we turn our focus on Jesus, Satan and his trappings of sin agreement become dim in the LIGHT of Jesus’ Glory and Grace.
- Repentance is often defined as a turning, a turning away from sin and a turning to God.
- Conversely, it works the other way too.

- The GREAT NEWS is, if we find ourselves entangled again with the yoke of bondage, we can do as Peter did; we can cry out, LORD save me! And Jesus will IMMEDIATELY reach out and pull us in. We may walk far from Him with our life choices, but He is NEVER far from us. He is always ONLY one breath away.
- If you are becoming aware of places in your life where you have let sin in to take you back into bondage, simply, turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, admit you have sinned, confess them before the LORD of Grace, repent fully, which means to completely turn your back on sin, accept Jesus forgiveness and start fresh — hopefully a lot wiser than you were a moment before.
- Be blessed, keep talking to God in your native tongue and in the tongue given to you when Holy Spirit filled you. Work on tuning your eyes and ears to God’s frequency by practicing what you “hear” Him say. Faith is an action word. That is why we are told to step out in Faith. (2Corinthians 5:7)