



# A Healthy Separation

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**Luke 5:15–16 NLT** — **15** But despite Jesus' instructions, the report of his power spread even faster, and vast crowds came to hear him preach and to be healed of their diseases. **16** But **Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.**

**Mark 6:30–32 NASB** — **30** The apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught. **31** And He said to them, "**Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while.**" (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.) **32** They went away in the boat to a secluded place by themselves.

## 1. Separation has a MODEL.

- a. From the beginning — He separated light from dark, day from night, water from sky (**Genesis 1:3–6**).
- b. He is separate, holy.
- c. He separates people for His purposes.
- d. People throughout Scripture separated themselves to be with God.

## 2. Separation has a SEASON.

- a. There are times and seasons when God calls us to separate more.
- b. Many of the festivals and feasts of Israel called for separation.
- c. Moses and Jesus were called to 40 days of separation.

## 3. Separation has a PURPOSE.

- a. We separate **FROM** something to go **TO** something.
- b. We do not do it to feel religious or superior, or to be strange.
- c. We separate for:
  - i. **CLARITY**
  - ii. **CLOSENESS**
  - iii. **COURAGE**
  - iv. **CONQUEST**

## 4. Separation has a STRATEGY.

- a. **Matthew 17:16–17 NASB** — **16** "I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him." **17** And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me."
- b. The problem is **unbelief** and **perversion**.
- c. **Matthew 17:19–21 NASB** — **19** Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" **20** And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. **21** [But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.]"
- d. The solution is **prayer** and **fasting**.
- e. The purpose of prayer is to get closer to God.
- f. The purpose of fasting is to get further from the world.