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SET APART

The Christian walk can oftentimes be a very lonely walk. I recall a fellow Pastor that shared his testimony. He had been part of a gang in Chicago. They had put hits out on other gangs and there was a lot of violence. When he encountered Christ and received salvation, he knew he had to get a new set of friends. The old things “needed to pass away” so all things could become new. Then he was part of a church that didn’t believe healing was for today. So, he found a new church that believed in healing. He left friends behind there also because he did not want to be divisive. Then he was baptized in the Holy Spirit, and the church he attended did not encourage that. So, once again, he left that church and found a church that believed in the full gospel. It was a big change for him leaving friends behind, but it was part of his growth in the Lord. He later went on to Rhema Bible College and became a Pastor in South Alabama.

The separation process is not easy as I said, but God uses this time to draw us near to him. The scriptures use the word sanctification, which simply means “set apart.” We are set apart from the old unto the “new.”

Are you going through this separation process? You have a choice. You can yield to it and become all that God has planned for you or fight it and stay stagnant and no growth. I suggest you take this time of setting apart as an opportunity to grow spiritually. Pray more. Read your bible more, and see God move in your life. Remember, the rose that is closed never gives the full fragrance of one that has opened. In the opening eventually comes the falling away of the petals, but it has lasting memories for the ones that enjoyed its aroma.

So too, in our lives, as we draw closer to God, we receive the fragrance of His Word, and it brings us an aroma that we never forget!