



# Set Apart

February 4, 2024 | Holiness Lived

**WARM UP QUESTION:** Has anyone ever called you into the kitchen to help with a tight jar lid? Was that because either you had a really strong grip, or you knew where the rubber grippy thing was kept? In any case, do you think they called you because they needed your power?

**READ:** Colossians 1:21-23

**FOCUS:** Once you were alienated from God but now you are reconciled because of Jesus' death on the cross.

**OBSERVE:**

- The Christians in Colossae were declared holy by their standing as Christ followers but still continued in some things that were not appropriate. Specifically, they continued to worship idols, to focus on pleasing themselves and continued to follow rituals that were of no benefit to their Christian walk.
- Instead, they needed to understand that they had been declared Holy by God. They needed to put away the useless things they were doing and proceed with conforming their lives to the holiness which Christ desires. They needed to worship only the Christian God, focus on pleasing Him and follow the example of Jesus Christ.

**REFLECT:**

- Is there any way, in your thinking or actions, that you are trying to win God's approval? Should you repent of these ideas and actions and ask for God's forgiveness?
- Can you take steps to remind yourself that you are already holy and approved through Christ's actions in His death and resurrection? Can you find Bible verses that support this and remind yourself of these daily?

**TAKING ACTION:**

- In your group, discuss examples of things people think they need to do in order to be acceptable and holy to God. Search your hearts and see if any of you are doing any of these things. Confess to each other and repent of these useless ideas.
- Support and encourage each other to continue in holiness by reminding yourselves of God's truth as stated in His Word.
- Support and encourage each other by "checking in" during the week.

**PRAY:** *Jesus, slain and resurrected Lamb of God, forgive us for trying to seek or earn approval rather than recognizing that Your death on the cross bought our approval. Remind us daily that we are a holy people. Show us daily the things we do to seek or earn approval. Bring us to confess our sins to You and, instead, how we can think, say, and do that which glorifies You and carries out our response to Your holiness. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*