



Octagon Part 4: The Isolation War

Argument: One of the key strategies of the enemy is to isolate Christians and keep them from living in Community with one another according to God's design.

Problem: We live in a fragmented world. An individualistic society. We have more ways to escape from personal interaction than ever before.

Solution: God's design was that we live in community with one another where we find healing, protection, comfort, discipline, correction, acceptance, nourishment, and growth. This CANNOT fully take place alone. Therefore we must find out what the God design is against Satan's device to thwart that design.

Key: We are like God when we commune because it is the very character of God to display this type of intimacy. So, to live in community is to actually be God-like in your living. So, must learn why living as a community and not a individuals is so vital and how it actually is a remedy against the devil's schemes.

### Genesis 3:1-7

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You<sup>7</sup> shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,<sup>8</sup> she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.”

## I. God wants to ENCLOSE You. The Enemy want to EXPOSE you.

Proverbs 18:1 - “Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.”

## II. The Enemy wants you to Change yourself God wants you to Exchange yourself.

Matthew 4:1-11 - “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, “ ‘ Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “ ‘ He will command his angels concerning you,’ and “ ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ” Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and

their glory. 9 And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “ ‘ You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’ ” Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him. “

### III. God wants to Elevate you. The Enemy wants to Eliminate you.

1 John 1:3-10 - “that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.