



## DAY 1

**READ** Mark 3:22, 28-30.

No forgiveness? Really? What does it mean to blaspheme against the Holy Spirit? Why is it that there's no forgiveness? Is it that God does not have enough mercy and forgiveness or that we have cut ourselves off from the work of the Spirit in our hearts and minds? How can calling evil good and good evil deaden our hearts and confuse our minds? How can doing so make it very hard to find our way back towards God? Is there any area of your life in which your thinking has become dark and you're in danger of deadening yourself to the Spirit's call? What can you do to renew your love for Jesus today?

**PRAYER:** *Holy Spirit, there have been times in my life I've turned away from Your voice. Forgive me. Renew my love for Your voice and for Jesus, that I may hate what is evil and cling to what is good.*

## DAY 2

**READ** 1 Timothy 4:1-2.

When have you had a seared conscience? When did you become used to something evil? When did it stop bothering you? When did you become comfortable with and actually enjoy it? Do you work to repair damage done or do you cut yourself off from others and from God? How do you respond?

Some of the signs of a seared conscience are isolation, dead emotions, anger, cynicism, defensiveness, pride, fear, boredom and/or even hostility towards the things of God. **TAKE** some time to **WRITE** in your journal about a situation you've gone through. **REFLECT** on what went right or how you could have made a bad situation better.

## DAY 3

**READ** Hebrews 3:15a.

**THINK** about the journey from evil words spoken to a seared conscience to a hardened heart. What does it look like to have a hardened heart? What kind of thoughts go through a person's mind to create this sort of path? Has this been part of your story? It is for most people.

**REFLECT** on how hardening your heart is like throwing away your compass or burning your map.

Where can we go without direction? How do we ever find our way back?

**PRAYER:** *Holy Spirit, there have been times in my life I've turned away from Your voice. Forgive me. Renew my love for Your voice and for Jesus, that I may hate what is evil and cling to what is good.*

## DAYS 4 & 5

**READ** Romans 12:9-21 below.

*Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.*

<sup>10</sup> *Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

<sup>11</sup> *Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.*

<sup>12</sup> *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*

<sup>13</sup> *Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

<sup>14</sup> *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.*

<sup>15</sup> *Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.*

<sup>16</sup> *Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.*

<sup>17</sup> *Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.* <sup>18</sup> *If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.* <sup>19</sup> *Do not take revenge, my dear friends,*

*but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written:*

*"It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.*

<sup>20</sup> *On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."*

<sup>21</sup> *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

**UNDERLINE** the phrases in this passage which choose good.

**CIRCLE** the words which describe action good or bad.

**PRAYER:** *Holy Spirit, forgive me for the times I've hardened my heart to You. Open my ears that I may hear. Help me always choose to listen to You. Keep my heart soft and receptive to Your voice. Open my eyes that I may see Your presence all around me -- in Your creation and Your people. Place people in my life who are willing to speak truth in love and help keep me on the right path.*

God shares with us many ways to choose good. From the Romans passage above, **PICK** a few things that may be some of your next steps. If life is overwhelming for you right now, just **PICK** one. **WRITE** out an action plan. **DO** at least one thing today. If you're able, come back later and **JOURNAL** about what you did, how it affected others, and how you felt afterwards.