

Module 401 – Session 1
What Is Holiness

I. WHAT IS HOLINESS?

- A. **Defined:** Holiness comes from the NT Greek word *hagiasmos*, which means **consecration**, purification, and **sanctification** of heart and life.
1. In the OT Hebrew: 6944 *qodesh* (ko'-desh); from OT: 6942; a sacred place or thing; sanctity: consecrated, dedicated, hallowed, holiness, saint, sanctuary.
 2. Webster's- the quality or state of being holy. **Set apart** to the service of God.
- B. As pertaining to God - **God is holy**. Holiness is an essential attribute of His nature.
1. Absolute Purity (no sin)
 2. Moral Perfection
 3. The very character of God- separates God from humanity.
- C. With respect to man - holiness is: conformity to the character of God. Thinking what He **thinks**, loving what He **loves**, hating what He **hates** consists of two components.
1. **Separation** from sin and worldliness.
 - The term saint comes from the Greek word *hagios* which means to be holy, or separated.
 2. **Dedication** to God and His Will.
- Leviticus 20:26 ***"And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine."*** KJV
- Ephesians 4:22-24 - ***"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."*** (NIV)

II. WHY HOLINESS AND IS IT IMPORTANT?

- A. **"Without it no man shall see the Lord."** It is **imperative** that we, as Christians, continue to experience the **ongoing** work of sanctification (separation from sin) **beyond** our initial experience.

Hebrews 12:14 - **"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."** (KJV)

- Follow = to ensue, to press forward.

- B. God created us for His glory and wants us to be separate from the world.

II Corinthians 6:17-18 - "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you... And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (KJV)

Titus 2:11-12 - **"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation that appeared to all men, Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world:"** (KJV)

- Verse 12 said to deny worldly lusts! What does worldly or worldliness mean?
- World value system = attitudes, morals, music, entertainment.
- Worldly in the Greek means worldly arrangement, corrupt.

1. What does the scripture say about loving this world?

I John 2:15 says, **"Love not the world, neither the things [that are] in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."**

James 4:4 asks, **"Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."**

- C. To **communicate** Christ to others. People will be attracted to Christ only to the extent that they see Christ in us.

Matthew 5:16 - **"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."** (KJV)

I Peter 2:9 - **"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."** (AMP)

III. BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES ON HOLINESS

A. Holiness is an absolute **requirement** for Christians.

I Peter 1:15-16 - ***"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."*** (KJV)

B. God requires an **external** witness of our **internal** holiness.

Romans 12:1-2 - ***"I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]."*** (AMP)

C. We are not saved **by** works, but we are saved **unto** works.

Ephesians 2:9-10 - ***"Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*** (KJV)

Titus 3:5-8 - ***"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men."*** (KJV)

D. Holiness Requires Personal Effort. God gives us the ability to be Holy, but we must **implement** it in our own lives. Don't just pray for victory, walk in **obedience**.

- I Cor. 9:26-27- (***"I put my body under subjection"***)
- II Cor. 7:1 - (***"cleansing ourselves from all filthiness of flesh & spirit"***)
- Hebrews 12:1 - (***"lay aside every weight & sin, run with patience"***)
- Hebrews 4:11 - (***"let us labour therefore...."***)
- II Peter 3:14 - (***"Be diligent..."***)

E. HOLINESS IS **WORSHIP**.

Romans 12:1-2 - ***"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will."*** (NIV)

Psalms 96:9 - ***"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth."*** (KJV)

- WORSHIP - "Shachah" - bow down, do obeisance, stoop, prostrate oneself - **submit** to (our obedience is worship).
- BEAUTY - "adarah" - **holy adornment**
- HOLINESS - "qodesh" - apartness, **separateness**, consecrated

IV. THE SOURCE OF HOLINESS

- A. There are three primary sources from which we draw our knowledge and revelation concerning true holiness unto God: 1) The Bible (**Word** of God), 2) Spiritual Leadership (**Man** Of God), and 3) the Holy Ghost (**Spirit** of God).

1. The Bible (The WORD of God)

II Timothy 3:16 - ***"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness..."*** (KJV)

2. Spiritual Leadership (The MAN Of God).

Hebrews 13:17- ***"Obey your spiritual leaders and submit to them [continually recognizing their authority over you], for they are constantly keeping watch over your souls and guarding your spiritual welfare, as men who will have to render an account [of their trust]. [Do your part to] let them do this with gladness and not with sighing and groaning, for that would not be profitable to you [either]."*** (AMP)

- God has given the church spiritual leaders for the equipping of the saints, for the building up, maturing, and growth of the body.

3. The Holy Spirit within us. (The SPIRIT of God).

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John 14:26 - **"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."** (KJV)

- The Spirit writes the Law on our hearts.

Jeremiah 31:33 - **"But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."** (KJV)

- B. Our "three holiness teachers" work together and complement one another, but the Bible is our final authority.

V. TWO DIMENSIONS OF HOLINESS

- A. Holiness is both inward and outward!

II Corinthians 7:1- **"THEREFORE, SINCE these [great] promises are ours, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that contaminates and defiles body and spirit, and bring [our] consecration to completeness in the [reverential] fear of God."** (AMP)

- B. Flesh-Outward, Spirit-Inward. Cleansing ourselves in both is "perfecting Holiness". Examples:

- Matthew 5:27-28 - dwelling on lustful thoughts are just as sinful as adultery, or committing the act.
- I John 3:15 - states that hatred is just as sinful as murder.

- C. Inward Holiness will produce outward holiness, but the outward appearance of holiness is worthless without inward holiness. It starts on the inside and manifests itself on the outside!

1 Thess. 5:23 says, **"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."** (KJV)

Matthew 23:23-28 - **"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."** (KJV)

- Notice Jesus said in **verse 26**, “**...cleanse first that which is within...**” The principle path to true holiness, Godliness, and righteousness comes from the inside, then out! Inward purity precedes outward purity.

D. We must get this critical foundational statement under our belts: “BIBLE **PRINCIPLES** PRODUCE **CONVICTIONS** WHICH ESTABLISH **STANDARDS**.”

VI. BIBLE PRINCIPLES

A. “Principle” defined.

1. A fundamental truth, law, etc...on which others are based; A rule of conduct.
2. Adherence to such rules, or integrity; A method of operation.
3. A law explaining a natural action.

B. All standards and convictions come from principles that can be divided into two categories.

1. Specific Biblical Statements
2. Practical applications of Biblical Principles.

C. Specific Biblical Statements.

- No differences of opinion relative to these basic commands. These are **clear**, black & white issues that are not gray. New Christians begin to obey these immediately. Examples of these are the prohibitions of: Fornication, Lying, Drunkenness, Lust, Worship of other Gods or Idols, Cursing, Stealing, etc.

D. Practical Applications of Biblical Principles.

1. These are usually understood & implemented gradually as we **grow** in grace and knowledge. These could include some aspects of adornment and dress or other issues.

Example: The Bible does not say, “Thou shalt not look at Pornography, dirty magazines, internet sleaze, or ungodly TV and movies.” But what does it say?

- Luke 11- "**Eye is the light of the body**"
 - Psalm 101- "**I will set no wicked thing before my eyes.**"
 - I John 2 – "**Lust of the eye, major source of temptation.**"
 - Also, lust is condemned in other places in the Bible.
- i. The Principle- anything that promotes **lust** we are to shun.
Therefore, no Playboy, internet pornography, ungodly movies or music, etc.

VII. CONVICTIONS

A. "Conviction" defined.

1. being **convinced** or strong belief.
2. a **strong inner feeling** that tells me that something is right or wrong.

B. There are also three basic types of convictions: **bible** convictions, **church** convictions, and **personal** convictions.

1. Bible Convictions. (Source- Word of God)

- They come from specific Biblical statements. They are clear, absolute and non-negotiable. A biblical truth cannot be changed for any reason!

2. Church Convictions. (Source-The Man of God)

- i. In some cases, the Bible presents a general principle but does not give detailed instructions for our culture. Examples:
- The Bible teaches men to have **short hair** but does not specify the precise length.
 - The Bible teaches women to **dress modestly** but does not describe a specific dress length.

3. Personal Convictions (Source - Spirit of God)

- These would be convictions that someone has that are **above** and **beyond** specific Biblical or church convictions.

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- They are **above** Bible and church convictions, not below! Your personal convictions can never be out of harmony with the Word of God.

VIII. WHAT ARE STANDARDS?

- A. The scriptures give us standards (guidelines) to help us in our pursuit of holiness.
- B. The word standard is defined as: a **flag**, banner or ensign, it's an acknowledged basis for comparing or measuring, criterion; a degree or level of requirement, excellence, or attainment.
- C. Standards were flags to identify nations, their people, their government, and their quality of life. So a standard is a banner or flag that **identifies** you, your nation's customs, philosophies & lifestyle. In battle it distinguishes which **side** you are on!
- D. Standards don't bind but set free! Standards help protect us!
 - a. If you had a child you would teach that child not to play or go out into the street. There is danger and death in that street. You would set a standard for that child to stay in the yard - in a place of safety.
 - b. We are the children of God and He has set standards to keep us from danger and death. There is safety in holiness if we will follow the leading of the Spirit based on the Word of God.

IX. WE ARE GOD'S DISCIPLES

- A. The Lord has called us to be His **disciples**. That means to be totally committed to the Lord, living a disciplined, sanctified life – His temple.
- B. We need to continually strive to learn the ways of the Lord, and to be Christ-like. When we walk with the Lord in the 'beauty of His holiness,' His light shines through us onto whoever we come into contact with. By being a vessel that the Lord can flow through, it gives hope to others whom The Lord is calling on in our circles of influence, and we can be used to help new people make it into the Kingdom of God.

Module 401 – Session 2
Christian Lifestyles

I. The eyegate and the eargate are gates to the mind and heart. We need to guard what we see and hear to keep our hearts pure.

- A. The Apostle Peter gives us insight as to what happens when godly people subject themselves to seeing and hearing ungodly activities.

II Peter 2:7-8 - ***"And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds."***

- The Greek word for **vexed** is kataponeo which means to afflict, to oppress with evils, and to harass. Lot lost all of his possessions, his wife, and his daughters became morally bankrupt. Jesus refers to Lot's wife when he teaches on not **looking back** to the world of sin that He delivers us from (**Luke 17:32**).

- B. The Bible principle of seeing and hearing in regards to the adverse influence of **television, movies, videos, books, music** & the **internet**. Ungodly material, no matter what the avenue, affects your heart and mind.

- C. David said in Psalm 101:3, ***"I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes; I hate the work of them that turn aside (to swerve, to fall away); it shall not cleave to me."*** (KJV)

- D. David learned from personal experience to guard what he set before his eyes. What we see can cause us to lust and to sin, and then to spiritual death (**James 1:15**). It cost David, greatly when he lusted-after, then committed adultery with Bathsheba (**2 Samuel 11:2**).

- E. This is why we, as Christians, should not set before our eyes the very things that are against the teachings in the word of God. A constant indulgence of material that is sympathetic and promotive of homosexuality, incest, prostitution, fornication, murder, the destruction of the family, mocks God and morality, promotes eastern religion, and teaches humanism, is an unhealthy diet for anyone, especially a child of God.

- F. Jesus gave his life to set us free from the sin of this world.

- No matter what the venue, why would we want to watch or listen to programs that promote the very things He stood against?

G. The home is the proving ground for Christianity. In Deuteronomy 7:26 Moses exhorts the children of Israel to keep their homes sanctified.

Deut. 7:26 - ***"Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor (hate) it: for it is a cursed thing."*** (KJV)

- What is an abomination? Something that God hates. Abominations were carried over from the Old Testament to the New Testament.

H. Did you know that watching someone sin makes you as guilty as they are?

Romans 1:32 says, ***"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."*** (KJV)

Rom. 1:32 - ***"who the righteous judgment of God having known -- that those practicing such things are worthy of death -- not only do them, but also have delight with those practicing them."*** Youngs Literal Translation

I. Paul gives wise counsel when he said ***"whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praise worthy- think about such things."*** (Phil. 4:8)

- These are the things that the Lord would prefer us to be thinking about.

II. THE REVELATION OF THE POWER OF SUBMISSION IN REGARDS TO HAIR.

A. Before we study hair in detail, let's establish the line of designated **authority**.

I Corinthians 11:3 - ***"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."***

- The man is the head of the women because he is designated as the spiritual authority and representative of the home.

I Cor. 11:7 - ***"For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man."***

B. Man & Short Hair.

I Corinthians 11:14 - ***"Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?"***

I Cor. 11:4 - ***"Every man praying or prophesying, having [his] head covered, dishonoureth his head."*** (KJV)

1. A man should not have his head covered when he prays or prophesies. By doing so he dishonors Christ who is the head. A man who prays or prophesies with an uncovered head or short hair is demonstrating his submission to Christ.
2. Did Jesus have long hair?
 - a. History proves that He did not have long hair. Jewish priests did not have long hair. Jesus was referred to in the New Testament as rabbi which means master. Jesus was not a priest after the order of Aaron, not being a Levite.

Ezekiel 44:20 - ***"Neither shall (the priests) shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long, they shall only poll (clip close to the head) their heads."*** (KJV)
 - b. At the time of Christ Palestine was under Roman rule and long hair on men was not the custom. Jesus would have been a curiosity indeed had he worn his hair in the way it is portrayed today.
 - c. Paul's reference to men's hair in **1 Cor. 11** was made less than 3 years after Christ ascended into heaven. Is it reasonable to say that Paul could not have obtained their cooperation in this matter if Jesus had had long hair?
 - d. Long hair on men indicates a measure of **rebellion**. It became a popular way to express anarchy and rebellion against the traditional institutions of American society in the 60's. Political radicals such as Jerry Rubin, and rock music groups like the Beatles, led the way and encouraged the young men of our nation and the world to express rebellion by letting their hair grow long.

Rebellion led to decadent lifestyles, the penalty for which our present society is paying for dearly.

C. Women and Long Hair

Let's start in **1 Corinthians 11:5-16** and study verse by verse.

Verse 5

"But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven."

A woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered (cut) dishonors her head, which is the man. That covering is a token of the position in which God has placed her. The woman demonstrates her submission to her head by a covered head (long hair). If a woman is unmarried, her head would be her male leader i.e. father, male guardian, pastor.

Verse 6

"For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered."

Definitions:

Shave - to remove hair with a razor or shaver.

Shorn - past participle of shear.

Shear - to remove hair clipping or cutting.

Trim - act of cutting or to remove by cutting.

Verse 7-9

"For a man indeed ought not to cover [his] head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."

Therefore, the man does not need the covering but the woman does! Scripture says that the woman is the glory of man. Glory means "a highly praiseworthy or brilliant asset; something that secures praise or renown; resplendence, magnificence." Wives are the resplendent, majestic beauty of their husbands.

Cut hair, on a woman, shows a rejection of authority and brings shame while uncut hair is a recognizable attribute of a glorious and honorable woman.

Verse 10

"For this cause ought the woman to have power on [her] head because of the angels." {power: that is a covering and sign that she is under the power of her husband}

Even the angels are involved in this issue. They are looking to see if she has the mark of consecration, submission and power with God or if she will be rebellious like Satan. Also, woman is a type of the church and she signifies to the angels whether or not the church is being submissive to Christ, the head of the church.

Verse 11&12

"Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. For as the woman [is] of the man, even so [is] the man also by the woman; but all things of God."

Paul explains the woman is not inferior to man and man is not complete without the woman. The husband is the head over the wife in the sense that he is responsible for her protection, her provision, and her guidance. A wife is to allow her husband to fulfill his role, submitting to his loving, sacrificial leadership as the church submits to Christ.

Verse 13

"Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?"

Paul answered this question in verse 5. It is a shame for her to do so.

Verse 14

"Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?"

It is nature, and not man's custom, that teaches a man to have **short** hair and a woman to have **long** hair.

Verse 15

"But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for [her] hair is given her for a covering."

How long is long? Long is **uncut**!

The Greek word for long is **komao** which means "have long hair."

Gingrich's Lexicon says to "wear long hair, to let one's hair grow long."

The Greek word for hair is **kome**. Two reference works in particular, Bauer's Lexicon and Moulton and Milligan's Vocabulary of the Greek New Testament both attest to the fact that "**kome**" demands the meaning of uncut hair. It is used to describe uncut hair in Greek Literature and it describes the Nazarites who were commanded not to cut their hair. It does not matter what culture you come from, long hair is uncut hair. If your hair is to your shoulders or to your knees, as long as it is uncut it is long.

Verse 16

"But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God."

Some people interpret this scripture to mean that if you don't agree than there is no such custom. Let's look at this scripture in a couple of other translations.

"If any man wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice nor do the churches of God." (NIV)

"Now if anyone is disposed to be argumentative and contentious about this, we hold and recognize no other custom than this, nor do the churches of God generally." (AMP)

1 Cor 11:13-16 – ***"Don't you agree there is something naturally powerful in the symbolism — a woman, her beautiful hair reminiscent of angels, praying in adoration; a man, his head bared in reverence, praying in submission? 16 I hope you're not going to be argumentative about this. All God's churches see it this way; I don't want you standing out as an exception."*** Message

In other words, there is no other custom. You have to understand what Paul was dealing with. He was giving answers to the new Christians in Greece. When these Greek women came to Jesus, this new God, they were assuming they should cut their hair in worship. They had done this type of thing for the gods they used to serve.

Young Greek maidens worshiped Diana as a major deity in the Grecian Empire. The influence of this particular cult was far reaching. Even coins have been found with Diana's picture and the inscription "Diana Ephesus."

Paul battled against it while ministering in Ephesus when Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines for Diana, incited a riot in response to Paul's teachings.

In Biblical times when you entered Corinth, at the top of the hill was a temple of Diana. The first sailor from the sea to the top of the hill was given free access to the whole harlot harem of Diana.

The prostitutes in the temple all had short hair. (See Theological Dictionary of the New Testament by Kittel and published by Urdman). They shaved off their long hair and cast it into the burning altar to Diana. Understand why Paul said we have no such custom?

D. History: When & why did American women start cutting their hair?

1. Prior to the 1850's American women did not cut their hair. But the women's movement in the 1850's began cutting their hair. Society was not ready for this and put up such a fuss that many women returned to the traditional hairstyle which was long and piled on top of the head. In the 1900's, women were attempting to be equal or better than men and began once again to cut their hair. Flappers, the term used for the women in the 1920-'s who by changes in dress and lifestyle, transformed forever the image of the women in the Western world. Motivated by their disillusioning and confidence building experience of World War I, flappers both in Britain and America were especially known for "bobbing" the long hair. In conclusion, long hair is a woman's covering (protection) and a sign unto the world and to the angels that she is in submission to her head (husband or male guardian) and that the man is in submission to its head which is Jesus Christ. It is our glory and it gives us power.
2. Why would we want to tamper with our glory and power by cutting or changing the natural state of our hair?

Module 401 – Session 3
Christian Lifestyles

I. What does the New Testament say about Jewelry?

- A. Much has been debated over the wearing of Jewelry. Some say that if God did not want us to wear it he would not have created it.
- B. Where did the children of Israel get the jewelry? From the Egyptians. (Egypt was typified as sin or worldliness).

Exodus 11:2 - ***"Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man borrow of his neighbour, and every woman of her neighbour, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold."***

- C. Look at God's response to Israel (remember, Israel is a type of the church) after they made the golden calf out of their jewelry.

Exo. 33:4-6 - ***"And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments. For the LORD had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye [are] a stiffnecked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee: therefore now put off thy ornaments from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee. And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb."***

- D. What did the children of Israel do with the ornaments?

Exo. 35:20-25 - ***"And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, [and] they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments. And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, [and] brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered [offered] an offering of gold unto the LORD. And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' [hair], and red skins of rams, and badgers' skins, brought [them]. Every one that did offer an offering of silver and brass brought the LORD'S offering: and every man, with whom was found shittim wood for any work of the service, brought [it]. And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, [both] of blue, and of purple, [and] of scarlet, and of fine linen."***

- E. They, with a willing heart, brought their jewels into the tabernacle as an **offering**. These two Scriptures show us that the gold and jewels were used to make the items of **service** unto the Lord. When they took the ornaments off, God met with them. They were told to remove their ornaments forever.
- F. As you can see, God did not intend for his people to wear the jewelry, but to use it for his service.
- G. Another time Israel received gold from the Midianites and they offered it to God (Num. 31:50&51).
- H. In Gideon's day, Ishmaelites and Midianites were distinguished from the Israelites by their use of jewelry and earrings.

Judges 8:22-24 - ***" Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian. And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you. And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they [were] Ishmaelites.)"***

- I. The scripture often associates jewelry with **pride** and **idolatry**. Let's look at a couple of examples.

- 1. When Jacob went back to Bethel to renew his relationship with God, he disposed of all the idols and earrings owned by his family.

Gen. 35:2&4 - ***" Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that [were] with him, Put away the strange gods that [are] among you, and be clean, and change your garments: And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which [were] in their hand, and [all their] earrings which [were] in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which [was] by Shechem."***

- 2. Look at God's judgment upon the proud, haughty women of Israel.

Is. 3:16-23 - ***" Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes {wanton...: Heb. deceiving with their eyes}, walking and mincing [as] they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: {mincing: or, tripping nicely} Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. {discover: Heb. make naked} In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of [their] tinkling ornaments [about their feet], and [their] cauls, and [their] round tires like the moon, {cauls: or, networks} The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, {chains: or, sweet balls} {mufflers: or, spangled ornaments}***

20 The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, {tablets: Heb. houses of the soul} The rings, and nose jewels, the changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, the glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the vails."

- **Definitions:**

Cauls: jeweled netting for the hair

Round Tires: round pendent for the neck - moon shaped

Mufflers: long veil

Wimples: a Wide Cloak

Is. 4:4-5 - **"When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory [shall be] a defence." {upon all: or, above all} {defence: Heb. covering}**

3. THE LORD SAID HE WOULD MAKE A WAY FOR ISRAEL AFTER HE WASHES THE FILTH OF THE DAUGHTERS OF ZION. HE WAS REFERRING TO THEIR JEWELRY, AND PRIDE.

J. Let's take a look at how the New Testament described holy women.

1 Pet. 3-4 - **"Whose adorning let it not be that outward [adorning] of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, [even the ornament] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."**

- That word adorn means to decorate, ornament, beautify, or embellish.
- Plaiting the hair refers to elaborate hair arrangements of that time that were intertwined with pearls and gold thread.

This scripture teaches against all showy and expensive displays, even clothing that is too expensive. Earrings, rings, necklaces, chokers, bracelets, pins, etc. are clearly ornamentation.

1 Tim. 2:10 - **"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or**

pearls, or costly array; {broided: or, plaited} 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

- K. **Functional jewelry**, such as: wedding rings (to let others know that you are spoken for) and watches serve a purpose and are permitted, although they should still be modest in appearance.
- L. Another reason the apostles taught against adorning ourselves with gold, or pearls etc., is because they knew of one (Lucifer) who was adorned, and his vanity caused him to be **proud** and **vain** to such an extreme, that he rebelled against God.

Ez. 28:13-16 - "*Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone [was] thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. {sardius: or, ruby} {beryl: or, chrysolite} {emerald: or, chrysoprased} Thou [art] the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee [so]: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou [wast] perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire."*

1. The Lord Jesus stated in **Luke 10:18**, "**And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.**" KJV
2. Precious stones will never be used again to reflect the glory of God. They are simply building materials for the New Jerusalem. The prophet Malachi identifies who will reflect the glory throughout all eternity.

Mal. 3:17 - "**And they (God's chosen people) shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.**"

II. How are cosmetics viewed in the Bible?

- A. Without exception, every example of makeup in the Bible is associated with wicked women. Harlots and prostitutes used makeup to entice men. Queen Jezebel painted her face when she tried to seduce Jehu.
 - II Kings 9:30 - "**And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard [of it]; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window. {painted...: Heb. put her eyes in painting}."**

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- **Painted** means to paint, dye, fair colors, glistening paint.
- **Tired** means - to adorn or beautify

1. Eye makeup started in Egypt about 3000 BC and throughout the bible Egypt was typified as sin and bondage.
2. Look at what God says to backsliding Israel.

Jer. 4:30 - "***And [when] thou [art] spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; [thy] lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life. {face: Heb. eyes} (KJV)***

- Rentest means to make large the eyes.

Ez. 23:38-40- "***Moreover this they have done unto me: they have defiled my sanctuary in the same day, and have profaned my sabbaths. For when they had slain their children to their idols, then they came the same day into my sanctuary to profane it; and, lo, thus have they done in the midst of mine house. And furthermore, that ye have sent for men to come from far, unto whom a messenger [was] sent; and, lo, they came: for whom thou didst wash thyself, paintedst thy eyes, and deckedst thyself with ornaments,***" {to come: Heb. coming}

3. What does history tell us about makeup and its origins?
 - a. The first recorded use of makeup in Western cultures comes from Ancient Egypt. Thebes, an Egyptian city filled with witchcraft and prostitution, was renowned for its painted women. They used exotic eye makeup to intensify their sexual attraction and to aid in the art of seduction. Egypt's influence continued through the centuries as various cultures imitated its practices.
 - b. Cosmetics remained synonymous with harlotry, idolatry, vanity, and deceit, causing Religious groups such as the Puritans to staunchly forbid the use of face paint. Women who painted their faces, usurped the divine order, taking "the pencil out of God's hand" as poet John Donne phrased. Indeed, some viewed the cosmetic arts as a form of **witchcraft**.
 - c. For the majority of the nineteenth century, face painting was prohibited among respectable people. To most Americans, the painted woman was simply a prostitute who brazenly advertised her immoral profession through rouge makeup. How did this sign of disrepute become the daily routine of millions?

- d. The wall of resistance began to break with the onset of theatrical influence. By the 1880's, Lillie Langtry, Adelina Patti, and other performers appeared in cosmetics in advertisements and testimonials. Makeup slowly began to merge from the stage into everyday life, heightening the importance of image making and performance. Standardized models of beauty were introduced using photographic and stage makeup techniques that challenged the "natural look."
- e. Before World War I, painted women remained spectacles. Working women were sent home for appearing on the job with an "artificial complexion."

Men in particular maintained these conventional views. Edward Bok, editor of Ladies Home Journal, observed in 1912 that men continued to see rouge as a mark of sex and sin. The stigma had never been removed by men, and is still in their minds today.

- f. Max Factor began to package his products and sell them out of his makeup studio. Others joined in this avenue of money making. Elizabeth Arden and Helena Rubinstein opened beauty salons on Fifth Avenue in New York City.
 - g. After World War 1 the cosmetic world blossomed into a mass market and thanks to Hollywood, cosmetics evolved into the giant industry it is today.
 - h. In the 1920s and 1930s, beauty experts shifted the burden of female identity from an interior self to a personality made manifest by marking and coloring the face. What started a cry for liberation and a bid for freedom from restraints has in fact become an instrument of bondage. Women are coerced to believe that they are not beautiful without makeup.
4. The world is not the only one wanting you to believe its lies.
- a. The enemy whispers in our ears that indulging in these fashions will not hurt us. Before you believe his lies lets look at the origin of makeup.
 - b. Lucifer was created in perfect beauty. As he **reflected** the light of God's glory, he was the epitome of flawless perfection.

However, once kicked out of heaven due to rebellion, he no longer was the shimmering, anointed cherub he was once. He became darkness-the direct opposite of light that he once radiated.

Now he must resort to subterfuge in order to enhance his appearance. The initial guise that he assumed was that of a serpent in the Garden of Eden. He wanted to convince Eve that God had created mankind **imperfect**. His strategy has not changed today. In his quest to destroy God's image, he assumes many disguises. He masquerades as a beast, a dragon, the Anti-Christ, and the False Prophet. Lucifer is the greatest makeup artist who ever existed.

- c. Consider the words "makeup" and "made-up". These words depict something that is **false**. When someone tells a lie we say, "He made that up." That is why we do not make up because "no lie is of the truth."
- d. Genesis 1:27 states that we are created in the **image** of God, the most extraordinarily beautiful Being that ever existed. If we are created in His likeness, why would we want to altar that image?
- e. The human face, which is created in God's image, is a **mirror** that reflects His glory to an idolatrous generation. When Moses came down from Mt. Sinai the bible says that "the skin of his face shown..." When the Israelites beheld the glory of God shining on his face, it reminded them of their sin. At their request, Moses wore a veil whenever he spoke to them.
- f. Likewise, when our lives are transformed by the power of God's spirit, His glory is revealed in our faces. The glory of God will sometimes intimidate when we walk through the midst of this wicked and perverse generation. The world would like us to veil the glory so they will not be reminded of a holy God who judges sin. That Holy Ghost glow can't shine if it is covered up.

Psalms 149:4 says, **"For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation."**

B. Other Types of Cosmetics

1. Painting Nails

- a. The practice of decorating the fingers has been carried out for both medical and magical purposes in the past. Decoration of the finger nails as a device to ward off evil spirits was practiced by the ancient Egyptians. It was one of the minor idolatries banned in Cromwell's England. Chinese mandarins gilded their finger-nails as a sign of rank, and men and women of mixed blood in Spain and America used to color them to conceal their ancestry which would otherwise be betrayed by their nails.
- b. Like the Israelites, we were brought out of Egypt (type of sin & worldliness) and no longer identity with Egypt's practices.

2. Tattooing

- a. Tattooing is Just another form of cosmetics. Look at the following scripture.

Leviticus 19:28- ***"Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD."***

- b. Tattooing, along with body piercing, is forbidden according to the Word of God. They represented occultic pagan practices. Tattooing was used by the Egyptians.

Module 401 – Session 4
Christian Lifestyles

I. Modest apparel and representing the Lord.

- A. Moral decay is rampant, and the spirit of sensuality holds sway in our society. Nudity has become commonplace as the fashion industry systematically churns out provocative apparel that deduces and appeals to the lust of the flesh. What would have been deemed scandalous attire a few years ago is now the ordinary.
- B. For thousands of years, human beings have been communicating with one another in the language of dress. You announce your sex, age, and class through what you are wearing. Important information (or misinformation) as to your occupation, origin, personality, opinions, tastes, and current mood are conveyed by your attire.
- C. God understood the communication of clothing from the beginning. When God created Adam and Eve the scripture says, "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." In their state of **innocence**, shame was non-existent. Once they partook of the forbidden fruit, purity was shattered.

Genesis 3:7- ***"And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."***

- D. These aprons were **insufficient** so God replaced the fig leaves with a proper covering.

Genesis 3:21- ***"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."***

- 1. Hebrew word for "coats" is kuttoneth which means coat, garment, or robe to cover.
- 2. God made coats to cover the nakedness of Adam and Eve, thereby setting forth a divine precept of modesty for mankind. Lust had gained admittance into the world, so humanity could no longer walk about naked.

- E. The erroneous argument that God is not concerned about the kinds of clothes people wear has no foundational support in Scripture. He cared enough to provide proper attire for Adam and Eve and ordained that mankind should be properly covered.

II. **THERE ARE TWO MAJOR FACTORS IN DEALING WITH THE SUBJECT OF DRESS.**

A. **#1 Modesty.**

1. Modesty cannot be defined by the current societal ideals. Society has diminished and even eliminated former clothing restraints. Because we represent the Lord our God, and His church, we must be governed by the guidelines outlined in His Word.
2. Modesty is dressing in a way as not to lend ourselves to seductive dress, or costly array; as to draw attention to one's self.
3. The fact is – men are visual creatures. They are affected by sight. Do you dress to entice or to please God? Low necklines, tight clothes, short skirts and slits draw attention to your body.
4. God was concerned about modesty and being covered. Look at the following scripture:

Ex 20:26 - ***"Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon."***

5. It was forbidden for their flesh to be exposed in the place of worship. Isaiah clarifies how God views the uncovering of a woman's legs and thighs.

Isa 47:1-4 - ***"Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate. Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers. Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man. As for our redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel."***

6. This was God's judgment on Babylon and Chaldea. It brought humiliation to the royal princesses who were cast from their thrones. No longer women of refinement and dignity, they became slaves, exposing their flesh in the sight of common men.

The **humiliation** of nakedness was one of the greatest punishments that could be inflicted upon these delicate women. History verifies that nakedness was associated with slavery while proper clothing was a sign of royalty.

7. We are a holy nation, a royal priesthood representing Jesus Christ to this world!
8. We should not wear clothing that incites lust. Both parties are held accountable in the sight of God. The word of God says, "That no flesh should glory in His presence." (1 Cor. 1:29)
9. The issue of immodesty was not unfamiliar to the New Testament Church. They were surrounded by the Greek culture where nakedness was ordinary. In Egypt, Crete and Greece, the naked body was not considered immodest; slaves and athletes went without clothing while people of high rank wore garments that were cut and draped so as to show a good deal when in motion. Paul alluded to the Olympian games and Grecian athletes in his writings. Clearly he was familiar with the heathen temples, rampant prostitution, nudity, and resulting moral decay in the Gentile society. From this vantage point the Apostle Paul addresses the issue of women's attire.

1 Tim 2:9-10 - ***"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."***

- Modesty = kosmios = orderly, of good behavior, modest
- Shamefacedness = aidos = to have downcast eyes, bashfulness towards men, awe towards God, self restraint, reverence, modesty
- Sobriety = discretion, temperance

10. Indecent clothing does not belong in the wardrobe of a godly woman. There should be no brazenness in the actions of a godly woman. She is to be bashful or inclined to shrink from undue male attention. Modesty coupled with profound awe towards God governs a

consecrated woman's conduct and clothing choices. She reverences her high calling as a holy woman, and this is displayed in her outward appearance.

11. Our clothing should exemplify holiness unto the Lord.

Rev. 3:18 admonishes us to buy ***"white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear..."***

12. We can not mix the sensual fabric of the world with the pure linen of righteousness. It could be a matter of spiritual life or death.

13. Tight clothing that is too revealing is not godly (speaking of both men and women). It should be our desire to have all attention focused on the Lord. There should not be anything in us, or on us that is used to attract attention to ourselves. It is all about Him!

14. Modesty is another reason why we should not be involved with **public swimming**. We can not portray the holiness of God walking around half naked.

B. #2 Gender Distinction.

Deut. 22:5- ***"The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God."*** (KJV)

1. "Pertaineth" to means things traditionally associated with, or patterned after a man. Slacks have indeed been masculine in our culture.
2. A man's attire is pants, trousers, and slacks. Even the public rest rooms differentiate the restrooms by portraying a woman in a dress, and men in pants. Even the people of this world know!
3. Modesty is another reason why we should not wear shorts. Shorts reveal too much and for men, most shorts are baggy in such a way that when they sit and cross their legs, you can see more than what is considered modest.
4. One thing is for sure: The unisex styles of our day are an abomination to God.

5. Men and women are different physically and emotionally. God placed certain social methods in place to maintain this difference. It is to guard against homosexuality, and the decline of the family.
6. God's purpose in distinction was to:
 - Prevent moral problems like blurring of the sexes.
 - Teach distinction between the sexes as in scripture and in nature.
7. The Holy women of God lived by **Deut. 22:5**. While it is true that both men and women wore robes in that day, their clothing was distinctive enough to know male from female afar off. The women also wore veils.

Quote from Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary – "Among the Hebrews neither sex was permitted by Mosaic Law to wear the same form of clothing as was used by the other sex. A few articles of feminine clothing carried somewhat the name and basic pattern, yet there was always sufficient difference in embossing, embroidery, and needlework so that in appearance the line of demarcation between man & women should be readily detected."

Gen. 24:64-65 - **"...Rebekah lifted up her eyes... and said what man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? She took a veil and covered herself."**

8. Priest wore "**breeches**" under their robes in Bible times. This does not occur very often in Scripture, but in every case it is men's apparel (Exodus 28:42, exodus 39:28, Leviticus 6:10, Leviticus 16:4, Ezekiel 44:18) – Women were not allowed to wear breeches.
9. According to Hebrew lexicons, breeches means **trousers** that extend below the knee. The later English word "**britches**" developed from this term, as did our modern concept of "**pants**."
10. Also in the Bible times men were permitted to "gird up their loins" while women were not. A man could transform his robe into a closer-fitting, less cumbersome garment by bringing the back hem of his robe between his legs and tucking it into his waistband, creating a pants-like effect, and was distinctively **masculine** in appearance.

11. When "girding up the loins" was used in the Bible it always referred to a man taking on his responsibilities "like a man."

12. In our culture today, you cannot tell a man from a woman sometimes when they are only 2 feet in front of you. The only way to tell is if the woman is wearing a dress or skirt.

13. Our dress and appearance separates us out from the rest of the world. Ever have someone come up to you and say "are you a Pentecostal"?

- Your outward dress and appearance identifies you as a holy and separated child of God. It is an honor and a privilege to be identified as one of His.

Deut. 22:5 - covers all **cultures** for all times! He is the same yesterday, today, and forever amen!

C. What does **History** say about apparel?

1. In 1850 the first assault was made on the conventional dress code as feminists dared to wear trousers beneath short dresses. Until that time it was unthinkable. These garments were called bloomers after feminist editor Amelia Bloomer.

America was not ready for such a radical change and put up such a public outcry that the idea was broached. But the idea had been planted and was not met with such outcry the next time. Skirts remained long and makeup nonexistent until the onset of the twentieth century. Women began to emulate Hollywood women such as Vampire Theda Bara, the original sex goddess who seduced and ruined men. She was famous for her seductive clothing.

2. Another agent of change was the discovery of King Tut's tomb. Women painted their faces, cut their hair as they copied the fashions of Egypt. They wore Egyptian style tunics, slave bracelets, and serpent headbands. Ironically, in woman's quest for freedom, they actually adopted clothing that symbolized bondage.

3. WW1 brought women from the home to working in factories and serving as nurses and auxiliary corps. Peace broke out and so did all former modest traditions. Along came the wearing of pants and shorts.
4. In the 20's came greater nudity and sensuality with the flappers and their bobbed hair and knee grazing dresses. The 60's brought in Twiggy's boyish looks and stick thin figure however, Twiggy also brought immodesty to a new level with the miniskirt. The 60's and 70's also brought in drugs and nudist colonies. As inhibitions were consistently lowered, people grew accustomed to exposing their flesh.
5. The moral destruction of a nation was revealed in the clothing worn by its citizens! How far has America fallen? The enemy of our souls is very experienced. We must not be ignorant of his devices.
6. The Bible states in John 2:16 ***"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the father, but of the world."*** (KJV)
7. As you can see, we can not come out from among them and be separate unless we have truly separated ourselves in all manner of conversation or lifestyle. We must surrender control of our life to the Lord Jesus Christ.
8. What in this earth is so important that we can not lay it down for Jesus Christ who laid down His life for us?
9. We need to love not the world neither the things that are in the world. We are just passing through. Lay your treasures up where moth and rust doth not corrupt. Only what you do for Christ will last!

Book References and Suggested Reading

1. Various translations of the Bible (as specified).
2. Reflecting the Glory by Ruth Rieder
3. Power Before the Throne by Ruth Rieder

Next Growth Step

Now that you have completed Module 401, you may be eligible to become a Covenant Member of La Casa del Alfarero. Signing a Covenant of Commitment simply means this:

- You are making a public statement to your Leadership, to your church family, to the devil, and most of all to yourself, that this is the way you want to live. That you agree and believe with all you have learned in Module 1, Module 2, Module 3, and Module 4.

If you are ready to make this commitment, all you have to do is make an appointment to meet one of the Pastors.

Please take the time to read over the Covenant of Commitment Agreement before you meet with one of the Pastors. This is the form that will be discussed.

May the Lord bless you as you move on to Module 501 – Evangelism.

**CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COURSE
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COVENANT OF COMMITMENT

I am committed to and believe in the biblical apostolic doctrine taught by our Pastor and taught in the Christian Development Course such as the following:

The Lord our God is one Lord (*Deuteronomy 6:4*).

God was manifest in the flesh (*1 Timothy 3:16*).

The name of the Lord our God is Jesus (*Zechariah 14:9, Acts 7:59*).

The Lord Jesus Christ was born, died on the cross, and in 3 days arose from the dead (*Luke 2:11, 1 Corinthians. 15:3-4*).

The New Testament plan of salvation: repentance from sin (a heartfelt sorrow causing a turning from sin to God), water baptism by submersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in new tongues, enabling a person to enter into the kingdom of God (*John 3:5, Acts 2:4, Mark 16:16-17*).

Christians should live holy lives (separated from sin and all forms of worldly lusts and ungodliness), consecrated and dedicated to God in this present world (*Titus 2:11-12*).

The source of Holiness is God, and by walking in the Spirit, a Christian can obtain an inward purification that will manifest itself outwardly (i.e. in appearance and conversation or behavior). (*1 Peter 1:15-16*).

Christians should set no wicked thing before their eyes and guard against what goes in their ears (i.e., filthy conversation) (*Psalms 101:3, II Peter 2:7-8*).

Christians should not take fellow Christians to a court of law to settle disputes (*1 Corinthians 6:5-8*).

Though we are saved by God's grace and not works, biblical disciplines are essential to a Christian's growth and are necessary to obtain eternal life such as the following: prayer and fasting, holy living, praise and worship, bible study, witnessing, faithful church attendance, submission to godly leadership, financially supporting the work of God (i.e., tithes, offerings, building fund, missions and special offering), participating in a ministry (i.e., teaching bible studies, visitations, altar counseling, ushering and many other ministries ILCDA offers to the body of Christ).

I agree with all of the above statements of belief, and I will abide by our Articles of Faith and our Bylaws, which originate in the Word of God. I commit to being faithful to La Casa del Alfarero and to the work of our Lord Jesus Christ. I commit to help my Senior Pastor, Antonio Tabares, and the ILCDA church family fulfill our vision.

ILCDA VISION

LA CASA DEL ALFARERO Family is committed to exalting Jesus Christ in purity and righteousness, communicating His Gospel responsibly and effectively to a lost world, and inspiring and strengthening the Universal Body of Christ.

New Member (Please print)

Date

New Member Signature

Date

Antonio Tabares, Senior Pastor

Date