

"STAINS REMOVED"

Silence, stillness, and centering before God (2-5 minutes)



SCRIPTURE / COLOSSIANS 1:22-23

22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—
23 if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.



DEVOTION BY PASTOR JARROD ODA

We all have a "go-to" outfit that we wear to formal occasions. My favorite would be a crisp white oxford button down shirt with a few choice selections of neckties for the varying mood of the event. One day, I had a wedding celebration to attend and so I reached for my favorite crisp white oxford button down shirt and picked out a light blue tie to match the wedding color theme and I was feeling confident and feeling good until we sat down for dinner. What could be the worst thing to eat when you are wearing a white shirt? You guessed it...Italian! It was a family style serving, so as the rigatoni in marinara sauce was passed to me, the serving spoon fumbled and it got all over my shirt! On top of that, I was accused of mishandling the bowl, saying it was my fault my shirt got ruined!

The next day I decided to take my shirt to the dry-cleaners to see if they could do anything about my shirt. I hardly go to the dry-cleaners, but I was desperate for help, and this was my "go-to" shirt! Three days later, I went to pick up my shirt, and to my surprise, it was spotless! Fresh, pressed, firm and clean. I even enjoy how they put it on a hanger and cover it in plastic so you feel like you are getting a new shirt. I was so happy to have my shirt clean that it even made the accusation not hurt anymore. Now I know this does not compare to what Christ has done for me, but it is a simple reminder that Jesus has removed the most impossible stains from your life; you are without blemish in the sight of the Lord and no accusation from

the devil will stand against you because Jesus has made you holy in His sight by His work on the cross.



REFLECT

Think deeply, process, and talk to the Lord (2-5 minutes)

- God does not see you for your sin, your past, or the labels that others have put on you. He sees you right now as "holy and without blemish." Sit in awe of that truth even if you still struggle to fully believe it.
- We are often our own worst critic. Offer up to the Lord some lies you've believed about yourself.