

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment. Isolation is the breeding ground for trouble.

Recently, I talked with a man who struggles with a certain weakness. He told me the struggle is most difficult when he's by himself, away from people and removed from accountability. That's true of all of us, isn't it? Stuff seems to flourish in the darkness.

It's been my experience, when I see people I know and love shrinking back a little bit, more often than not, there's something going on. Not every time, but isolation might tell more about us than we intend to communicate. Once again, the point is that sin flourishes in the darkness, and it's destroyed by the light. If we're private people by nature (and I have to confess, that tends to be my bent), then we need to be very careful. There's safety in numbers. God wants us to live in community with other people.

The Word of God has something very specific to say to us along these lines in 1 Corinthians chapter 16 verses 15 and 16. “Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints), that you also be in subjection to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.”

The expression “be in subjection to such men” is the idea that Paul says, “you can learn an awful lot from this marvel of godliness.” See, we never reach a point in our growth and maturity in Christ where we no longer need the community of God.

Here's what I want you to remember today. God never intended for us to be spiritual lone rangers. He's placed us in a family, and we shouldn't run from our family. Let's allow the family of God to contribute to our victory over sin.