***August 26, 2018***

***Today’s Lesson: Out of Sight, Out of Mind!***

 **From Mike:**

We looked at the first two **Spirit Quenchers**, but there are several more to go on my list. I didn’t intentionally put them in order of difficulty or prevalence—greatest to least kind of thing—but it almost worked out that way. Doubt and guilt were the first two Spirit Quenchers that I put on my list when I first began thinking about this special series of lessons. The list grew as I thought and prayed about it, and I never received any suggestions from others about what they would like to see on the list. I shared my list with some family and friends while on our trip, and they couldn’t think of anything to add to it. So, I feel pretty good about us covering most of the primary things that we struggle with as we attempt to keep the Spirit’s flame burning in our hearts. Doubt and guilt are two that everyone struggles with, both in the beginning of our walk with Christ, and occasionally throughout our relationship building with Him. We all struggle and we all make mistakes. As we mature spiritually, we still doubt, but through experience we have answers, tools, and support we know we can draw on to help us get through it quickly. And since we are sinners—only perfect in the sense that Jesus made us that way—we stumble and do things we shouldn’t. Spiritual maturity is not the absence of sin but having the right attitude about sin. It disturbs us! It upsets us when we realize what we’ve done! We don’t excuse it or try to rationalize it away because we have an honest relationship with God and Jesus that we deeply care about—and we love them enough to be honest. Yes we sin, but we don’t like it and we rejoice that the blood of Jesus is constantly washing it away (1 Jn.1:7). We don’t want to disrespect what He did and how much it cost. Grace changes us—or it should. Today we are looking at a **Spirit Quencher** that will hit us all—again! But this one…well, it’s between you and God.

 FYI—Tentative date for **Bible Action** is June 6, 7, 8, & 9. We have some graduation conflicts that won’t allow an earlier date.

 My blog & books can be found on **mikerootbooks.com**