

Guarding your
eye and ear
gates: By Erica
Jermanus

In this book, I talk about the importance of guarding your ear and eye gates from the world and the things in the world. The enemy wants to tempt you to watch and listen to secular and worldly entertainment. It is all around us, even when you go to the store, or you are driving, you hear secular music on the radio. If you go to the doctor's office, there is a TV on with secular TV shows or movies. Or you could have a television in your home, and you watch secular and worldly movies and TV shows.

You may not think anything of it. You may not think that there is anything wrong with watching and listening to this secular entertainment. But I want to tell you that it is an open portal to the demonic realm. When you are watching and listening to music and movies and tv shows, you are leaving an open door for the devil to come and tempt you, deceive you, and distract you from what God is calling you to do. Jesus Christ may be calling you away from worldly media to focus on Him and your relationship with Him. He may want you to serve Him and fulfill your God-given purpose and assignment.

But when you are consumed with secular media by playing video games and watching television, you are not guarding your ear and eye gates. You are allowing the devil to come into your life and influence you to do evil. If you act on that evil, it can lead you to sin and to hell.

You may be tempted to watch TV shows about drinking alcohol, partying, smoking, and fornicating. Then, you see people on those shows doing those things, so now you are tempted to go back to your past and do those things. You may see someone smoking weed in a movie or TV show, so now you crave a blunt, or want to go back to smoking again. Or you may see someone partying at a bar or a club, so now you want to go to the bars and clubs with your friends. That is how the enemy plants seeds in your mind. He plants seeds on the things that we are consuming. You may be listening to a song on the radio with curse words, and now you find yourself cursing and swearing. Proverbs 4:23 says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

Even the people you hang out with can influence you to do things that God has delivered you from. Your friends

may be out partying, smoking, and drinking. When you are around them, you are pressured into doing those same things because they are doing them. Then, you find yourself going back to your past and doing things of your past. Now, you need to get delivered again, because you were tempted by people from your past. The devil knows how to send people from your past into your life. The enemy will try to get you to go back to your old ways or old way of living. He will even try to get you to be surrounded by the wrong people and do things that grieve your spirit. When you have the Holy Spirit, you will be convicted of certain sins and bad habits. 1 Corinthians 15:33 says, "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners."

You will want to turn away from those things because it grieves the Holy Spirit within you. The Holy Spirit is holy and sacred. You want to live a holy lifestyle. You do not want to defile your temple with the things of this world. 1 Corinthians 3:17 says, "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." So, you will want to live right by pleasing God with your lifestyle. You will want to walk in obedience to the word of God and the commands of God because you love Him. This does

not mean you are perfect and that you do not make mistakes. This means that when you do, you repent, get back up, and try again. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

When you listen to secular and worldly media, it can lead to negative thoughts about yourself and about your life. The music that you listen to may not be glorifying God, but instead glorifies self. 2 Corinthians 10:17 says, "But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." The music is all about self and one's own selfish desires. Many songs on the radio are about dating, relationships, and having sex. God created sex between a husband and wife and not a girlfriend and boyfriend. Whenever you listen to worldly music, you may feel led to turn it off or stop listening to it, because the Holy Spirit within you convicts you of it.

The music and movies discuss you when you listen and watch them. Why? Because the world does not belong to you. You are in the world, but you are not of the world. If you are a Christian, you are set apart from this world. So, you will not want to partake in some of the things of the world, because you want to live holy and

you want to please God with your life. You try not to sin against God, because you know that sin leads to consequences. When you sin, you ask God for forgiveness and for help with repenting. You will want to guard your ear and eyes by listening to things that glorify God, or are godly and wholesome to the ears and eyes.

Ephesians 4:29-30 says, "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."