

Day 23**Searching for Hindrances**

When you begin fasting and praying there may be sin in your life that you didn't know about. A lengthy fast helps you find sin and deal with it by the blood of Christ. There may be a sin hidden in your heart, or you may be blinded to an otherwise obvious sin. Remember, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear" (Ps. 66:18, *NKJV*). Because we justify some of our sin, we don't see the hidden sin in our heart that hinders answers to prayer.

As you tarry in God's presence, realize, "God does not hear sinners" (John 9:31, *NKJV*) and "Your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden *His* face from you, So that He will not hear" (Isa. 59:2, *NKJV*).

Remember, you have an enemy who opposes you. Satan doesn't want you to be holy and separated from sin. He doesn't want you to get answers to prayers. He doesn't want you to enjoy intimacy with God. Satan blinds you to sin in your life so that you will not repent of sin. He uses satanic blindness to keep you in his grasp: "The god of this age has blinded, [those] who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them" (2 Cor. 4:4, *NKJV*).

So, you need to pray with David, "Search me, O God . . . And see if there is any wicked way in me" (Ps. 139:23-24, *NKJV*). It may take time for God to reveal to you the one hidden sin that blocks His blessing in your life.

You can be sure that if you ask God to show you your sin, He will do it: "There is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known" (Matt. 10:26, *NKJV*). – by Elmer Towns©

-My Time to Pray-

- Lord, show me anything in my life that is blocking an answer to my prayers.
- Lord, I confess my ignorant sin and known sin; forgive me and cleanse me (1 John 1:9).
- Lord, now hear and answer my prayers and see revival to America.

Day 24**Resting in Prayer**

Prayer is talking to God based on our deep relationship with God. When we pray we are communicating with God. Just as we express many attitudes when talking, so we bring many attitudes to prayer. There is desperate prayer, warfare prayer, struggling prayer, bold prayer and communion prayer. So, there is a time *to rest in prayer*. Didn't David say, "I wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him" (Ps. 62:5, *NLT*)?

Fasting is letting your body rest. That means your stomach is resting and the heart is not working as hard to digest your food. Don't forget about your soul, you rest in God's presence.

You began your Christian life by getting rest from sin. Didn't Jesus invite us, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matt. 11:28-29, *NLT*). On your spiritual walk, you must constantly get stronger spiritually by seeking occasional rest.

We don't learn as much when we're talking as when we're listening. So we need to kneel quietly in God's presence to learn some of the better lessons in life.

Also, we get strength from being quiet in God's presence. Just as our tired physical muscles need rest to regain their strength, so our tired souls need rest to regain determination and courage to work for God. Your stomach is now resting in this fast; what about the rest of your physical body? What about your soul?

So *resting in prayer* comes naturally when you quit talking. However, there is a skill to the discipline of silence so that something is happening in the silence between you and God. You're growing, you're getting closer to God, and you're getting your prayers answered.

As you fast, learn to rest and fellowship with God. It will rejuvenate your spirit and renew your determination. – by Elmer Towns©

-My Time to Pray-

- Lord, I rest in Your protection, knowing any attack is a challenge to Your ownership of my life.

- Lord, help; there's an enemy who hates me.