

What's Next

(Search me O God Continued)

If you followed the sermon on 11-06-16 evening we talked about David's prayer in Psalms 139:23-24.

Here David prays to God to search him to find any evil that remains and to take it from him that he may have that perfect walk with God.

Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts,

Psa 139:24 and see if any wicked way is in me; and lead me in the way everlasting.

So what's next? I prayed the prayer and God has shown me a few things that aren't quite right in my life what am I to do next?

Here you have two options:

1: You can ignore what God has shown you and keep going.

2: You can address each situation one at a time.

First if you ignore the problem that God has shown you it is just going to get worse and worse. If you have ever had a plumbing leak you know if it is not attended to eventually the pipe is going to burst. This is same when it comes to sin in your life. At first its just a little problem but as time goes on it grows and grows until its all consuming whether it is gambling, porn, drinking or some other issue that God has shown you.

Remember what the Bible says:

Gal 5:7 You were running well. Who hindered you that you do not obey the truth?

Gal 5:8 This persuasion is not from Him who calls you.

Gal 5:9 A little leaven leavens all the lump.

So even though ignoring these things God has shown you is an option I really don't believe it is an option that you can live with in the long run.

The second option seems to be the best solution to how we deal with the problems in our lives that God has shown us, but why should we address these problems one at a time rather than all at once and get it over with.

First of all history teaches us that no one can fight a battle on more than one front

and win. The Germans in both Great wars and Napoleon. These were great generals but made the same fatal mistake when it comes to warfare, they tried to fight the wars on multiple fronts and lost. Make no mistake about what we are going through we are at war not with earthly things but a spiritual battle not for material things but for our very souls.

Secondly depending on what it is that God has shown us we may not have the energy to fight more than one of those issues at a time.

There are generally 2 problems that Christians face when we are shown there is something in our lives that we need to get rid of.

1st) We beat ourselves up over it.

We look at ourselves and say why did I let it get this far, or why did I let this happen to me. How did I let it get control of me.

Charles Spurgeon put it this way:

When a believer has fallen into a low, sad state of feeling, he often tries to lift himself out of it by chastening himself with dark and doleful fears. Such is not the way to rise from the dust, but to continue in it. As well chain the eagle's wing to make it mount, as doubt in order to increase our grace. It is not the law, but the gospel which saves the seeking soul at first; and it is not a legal bondage, but gospel liberty which can restore the fainting believer afterwards. Slavish fear brings not back the backslider to God, but the sweet wooings of love allure him to Jesus' bosom.

2nd) We get over confident and think we can handle it in our own strength.

We see the problem that God has shown us and we say I got this and go at it with our own strength and fail. When this happens we get discouraged at sometimes quit trying to solve this problem.

Charles Spurgeon says it this way:

For my strength is made perfect in weakness."

- [2Co 12:9](#)

A primary qualification for serving God with any amount of success, and for doing God's work well and triumphantly, is a sense of our own weakness. When God's warrior marches forth to battle, strong in his own might, when he boasts, "I know that I shall conquer, my own right arm and my conquering sword shall get unto me the victory," defeat is not far distant. God will not go forth with that man who marches in his own strength. He who reckoneth on victory thus has

reckoned wrongly, for “it is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.” They who go forth to fight, boasting of their prowess, shall return with their gay banners trailed in the dust, and their armour stained with disgrace. Those who serve God must serve him in his own way, and in his strength, or he will never accept their service. **That which man doth, unaided by divine strength, God can never own.**

Neither one of these methods are the right way to deal with the problems God has shown us.

So how are we to change that which God has shown us.

First we have to realize that we are not alone. God tells us in Psalms 9 that:

Psa 9:9 Jehovah also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

Psa 9:10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, Jehovah, have not forsaken those who seek You.

And he makes us a promise in John 14:

Joh 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, so that He may be with you forever,

Joh 14:17 the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see Him nor know Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and shall be in you.

Joh 14:18 I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you.

Joh 14:19 Yet a little while and the world does not see Me any more. But you see Me. Because I live, you shall live also.

Joh 14:20 At that day you shall know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

Joh 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him.

Joh 14:22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, Lord, how is it that You will reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, If a man loves Me, he will keep My Word. And My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

Joh 14:24 He who does not love Me does not keep My Words, and the Word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

Joh 14:25 I have spoken these things to you, being present with you.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you.

Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Joh 14:28 You have heard how I said to you, I go away and I am coming to you again. If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, I go to the Father, for My Father is greater than I.

Joh 14:29 And now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens you might believe.

Joh 14:30 I shall no longer speak many things with you, for the ruler of this world comes, and he has nothing in Me.

Joh 14:31 But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father has given Me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go away from here.

So during these times he will not only be our refuge but he will send us a comforter and a helper in the form of his spirit to give the strength and hope that we need to go further in our walk with him.

Second we must accept the fact that there is a problem and that we must change. Acceptance is always the first step, if we don't believe there is a problem we will never have permanent change.

Third the road to change begins with prayer.

Php 4:6 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.*

Php 4:7 *And the peace of God which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

The Fourth thing we must do is forgive ourselves.

The Bible teaches us that in order to get forgiveness we must first forgive those who have hurt us:

Mat 6:14 For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you;

Mat 6:15 but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Joh 3:17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him.

What most people don't understand that this applies to us in regards to ourselves. We must first forgive ourselves before we can believe that God has forgiven us.

In Conclusion

In order to change those things in our lives that God has shown us must go in order to have that perfect walk with him. We must:

1st) Realize that we are not alone and depend on him

2nd) accept

3rd) Pray

4th) forgive ourselves

Once we accept the fact that we have a problem and take responsibility for that problem, we pray about it and give it to him and rely on his strength to get us through and to remove this problem from our lives once and for all, and forgive ourselves and stop condemning ourselves for the problems in our lives we can begin the journey that God intended for us.

There is nothing that Time, Patience and Prayer can't fix

Remember there is nothing too big or too broke for our God