



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### “HINDRANCES TO PRAYER”

#### P.U.S.H. Series – Part 9

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God does not change with the passing of time. He is the same God who remains faithful to His words; the same God who answers the prayers of His people. But as much as He answers the prayers of the saints in the New and Old Testaments, we also hear the testimony of many people that God really answers prayers. In the same way, we also hear people say that God remains silent to all their pleas (Proverbs 28:9). The problem, however, is not with God; the problem lies in us.

#### 1. How do we pray properly?

- 1.1 We should pray in the Name of Jesus (John 14:14). There is power in the Name of Jesus. Jesus is the only way to our God the Father and we know that He is our great intercessor (John 17).
- 1.2 We should pray persistently; we must never give up (Ephesians 6:18; Jeremiah 33:3).
- 1.3 We should keep on asking (Matthew 7:7).
- 1.4 We should learn the power of faith (Mark 11:24). The prayer of faith must be based upon the Word of God and believe that we have received whatever we ask for in prayer.

#### 2. What are the hindrances to our prayer?

- 2.1 **Disobedience** (1 Samuel 15:3, 9-12)  
Like Saul, we set the monument of ourselves. Disobedience against God is sinful because it is separation from Him (Romans 6:23). When we disobey, we should admit our mistakes and not blame others. Complete obedience is to do what God says when He says it, and how He says it until it is done. We obey God when we follow His will, take His direction, and listen to His advice.

#### 2.2 Stubbornness

Stubbornness is when we turn our backs and cover our ears to a message of truth and refuse to change (Zechariah 7:11-13; 2 Timothy 4). Sometimes we take advantage of God's patience. God warns us in Jeremiah 7:13-16. Hence, even if we ask the intercessors to pray for us but lead stubborn life, the Lord will not answer our prayers (Proverbs 28:9).

#### Conclusion:

God has good plans for us (Jeremiah 29:11). He promised to hear our prayers as long as we have the right attitude toward Him. If we want God to hear us and answer our prayers, we should make amends and resolve to change. Let us reflect on ourselves, see the condition of our hearts and talk to God. He will hear our voices and answer our prayers (Proverbs 15:29).

#### Reflection:

1. Does God answer your prayer?
2. Are there some areas in your life, issues, sins which have hardened your heart against God?

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