



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Hindrances to Blessings (Part 3)

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Reading: John 10:10

"I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly."

Blessing

- Blessing means we **enjoy** the divine favors; it is not just the **availability** of provisions, but the **way we enjoy** the divine favors from God.
- We are destined to enjoy blessings but because of our wrong ways, we are blocking the flow of blessings.
- Blessing comes in many ways, sizes, degrees, forms ...

Hindrances to Blessings

1. UNFORGIVENESS

- Is a poison that brings you suffering, it is not a poison to the other person.
- Causes negativity - you will always have negative thoughts, ill feelings, complaints in life.
- Get rid of unforgiveness and start to experience the goodness of God.

2. PRIDE

- Intellectual pride - we do not acknowledge the need for other people to seek help.
- God is at work – surrender your plans and aspirations to His grand plan.
- Acknowledge His wisdom with a humble heart.

3. ATTITUDE

- a) Contentment – lead a simple life
- Count your blessings – this is the antidote to depression.
 - Recognize and appreciate God's blessings in all aspects of life.
 - Blessings come from God's goodness despite our unworthiness.

b) Discontentment

- No satisfaction, no appreciation, always wanting more.
- Leads to greed and avarice (which are capital sins).
- Complicates our life, leading to a life of misery.
- Make your choices based on the truth, love, goodness and service.

4. PUTTING OUR OWN INTEREST FIRST RATHER THAN GOD'S

- God is not stingy, unjust or unreasonable. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be given you." (Mt 6:33).
- But, there is a requirement – must put first the interest of the kingdom of God.
- God is love and mercy; He is not a punishing God. He gives us ample time to enjoy His blessings (not just financial, but also appreciate our good health, integrity, physical abilities, peace of mind etc.).

5. NEVER DEVIATE FROM TRUTH AND GRACE

- We must screen things ourselves, do not wait for other people to tell us.
- Be incorruptible - persevere with holiness.
- Whether big or small, a deviation from the truth is still wrong.
- Do not invent your own truth or skirt around the word.
- Insist on living the truth and invoke God's grace in abundance.

Remove these hindrances to enjoy God's blessings. Especially this Christmas season, enjoy meaningfully the birth of our Lord Jesus, whose coming is to bring abundance and eternal life.

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